High-spin intruder band in ¹⁰⁷In

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High-spin states in the neutron-deficient nucleus ¹⁰⁷In were studied via the ⁵⁸Ni(⁵²Cr,3p) reaction. In-beam γ rays were measured using the JUROGAM detector array. A rotational cascade consisting of ten γ -ray transitions, which decays to the 19/2⁺ level at 2.002 MeV, was observed. The band exhibits the features typical for smooth terminating bands that also appear in rotational bands of heavier nuclei in the $A \sim 100$ region. The results are compared with total Routhian surface and cranked Nilsson-Strutinsky calculations.

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I. INTRODUCTION

The structure of nuclei close to 100 Sn has received increasing attention in recent years. Excited states of neutrondeficient nuclei with $Z \sim 50$ are expected to be predominantly of a single-particle nature at low spin because of the presence of a spherical shell gap for protons. However, recent experimental and theoretical investigations have elucidated additional important excitation mechanisms, such as magnetic rotation [1], and deformed rotational bands of dipole and quadrupole character exhibiting smooth band termination [2–7]. The diversity of excitation modes in these nuclei make them particularly interesting systems to study.

In the $A \sim 100$ region, the observation of well-deformed structures is interpreted as being based on 1p-1h [5,7] and 2p-2h [2–4,6] proton excitations across the Z = 50 closed-shell gap and on the occupation of the intruder $h_{11/2}$ orbital. These studies have in particular highlighted the so-called "smooth band termination" phenomenon, following alignment of the valence nucleons outside the ¹⁰⁰Sn doubly magic core. In the previous studies, levels in ¹⁰⁷In were extended up to I = (33/2)at 6.893 MeV, the last member of a magnetic-dipole band structure [8]. A well-deformed intruder structure was observed earlier in ¹⁰⁷In (see Fig. 23 in Ref. [4]), but its detailed analysis has not been published so far.

To further investigate the existence of well-deformed structures in the $A \approx 100$ mass region, we obtained new data on the high-spin states of ¹⁰⁷In. In the present work, a rotational band was observed, extending to high angular

momentum (>30 \hbar). It is connected with the low-lying yrast states via several γ -ray transitions.

A rotational-like level structure in ¹⁰⁷In was recently reported [9]. Although some of the γ -ray transitions are identical to those observed in the present work, the results are generally not in agreement with the results obtained in the present work. The band was not observed to lower spin states and it was not connected to the lower-lying states in ¹⁰⁷In.

II. EXPERIMENTAL DETAILS

The experiment was performed at the JYFL accelerator facility at the University of Jyväskylä, Finland. The ⁵²Cr ions, accelerated by the JYFL K = 130 MeV cyclotron to an energy of 187 MeV, were used to bombard a target consisting of two stacked self-supporting foils of isotopically enriched (99.8%) ⁵⁸Ni. The targets were of thickness 580 μ g/cm² and 640 μ g/cm². The average beam intensity was 4.4 particle-nA during 5 days of irradiation time. High-spin states in ¹⁰⁷In were populated by the fusion-evaporation reaction 58 Ni(52 Cr,3p) 107 In. Prompt γ rays were detected at the target position by the JUROGAM γ -ray spectrometer consisting of 43 EUROGAM-type [10] escape-suppressed high-purity germanium detectors. In this configuration, JUROGAM had a total photopeak efficiency of about 4.2% at 1.3 MeV. Figure 1 shows a total γ - γ coincidence spectrum. Gamma-ray peaks of ¹⁰⁷In are observed as belonging to the strongest fusion-evaporation channel (3*p*). Other reaction channels such as 104 Cd (1 α 2*p*), 106 In (3p1n), and 107 Sn (2p1n) are also observed clearly.

The fusion-evaporation products were separated in flight from the beam particles using the gas-filled recoil separator RITU [11,12] and implanted into the two double-sided silicon strip detectors (DSSSDs) of the GREAT [13] spectrometer.

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FIG. 1. Total $\gamma - \gamma$ coincidence spectrum. Gamma-ray peak energies are labeled in keV for strong peaks. Previously known transitions in ¹⁰⁷In as well as those from the other principal evaporation residues, ¹⁰⁴Cd, ¹⁰⁶In, and ¹⁰⁷Sn, are observed as indicated in the figure.

The GREAT spectrometer is a composite detector system containing, in addition to the DSSSDs, a multiwire proportional counter (MWPC), an array of 28 Si PIN photodiode detectors, and a segmented planar Ge detector. Each DSSSD has a total active area of $60 \times 40 \text{ mm}^2$ and a strip pitch of 1 mm in both directions yielding in total 4800 independent pixels. In this measurement, GREAT was used to filter the events such that recoils were separated and transported to the final focal plane of RITU.

The signals from all detectors were recorded independently and provided with an absolute "time stamp" with an accuracy of 10 ns using the total data readout (TDR) [14] acquisition system. Events associated with the recoil hitting DSSSD of GREAT and prompt γ rays detected by JUROGAM were sorted offline using the GRAIN analysis package [15] to store the recoil-gated multifold γ coincidence data. In total 5.3 × 10⁸ events were accumulated. The data were analyzed using the RADWARE data analysis software package [16]. The multifold event data were sorted offline into an E_{γ} - E_{γ} correlation matrix and an E_{γ} - E_{γ} - E_{γ} cube. Based on single and double gating on the matrix and cube, respectively, coincidence relations between observed γ rays were examined. Figure 2 shows a level scheme constructed in the present study.

To determine the γ -ray multipolarities, an angular distribution analysis was performed. The germanium detectors of the JUROGAM spectrometer were distributed over six angles relative to the beam direction with five detectors at 158°, ten at 134°, ten at 108°, five at 94°, five at 86°, and eight at 72°. Recoil-gated coincidence matrices were sorted such that the energies of γ rays detected at specified angles of JUROGAM, $E_{\gamma}(\theta)$, were incremented on one axis, whereas the energies of coincident γ rays detected at any angles, E_{γ} (any), were incremented on the other axis. Six angular distribution matrices corresponding to the angles $\theta = 158^\circ$, 134° , 94° , 86° , and 72° were created. Background-subtracted angle-dependent spectra were created by gating on transitions on the E_{γ} (any) of the matrices. Peak areas for a given coincident transition were measured and normalized by the number of detectors as well as

efficiencies at each angle, then fitted to the angular distribution function $W(\theta) = a_0[1 + a_2P_2(\cos\theta) + a_4P_4(\cos\theta)]$. In the case of stretched quadrupole (E2) transitions, a_2 and a_4 coefficients will have positive and small negative values, respectively, whereas those of pure stretched dipole (M1 or E1) transitions will be negative and zero values, respectively.

III. RESULTS

High-spin levels in ¹⁰⁷In were previously reported up to the (I = 33/2) state at 6.983-MeV excitation energy [8]. The spin parity of the ground state is $9/2^+$, arising from its $\pi g_{9/2}$ hole character. The $19/2^+$ state at 2.002 MeV and the $17/2^+$ state at 1.852 MeV have been reported to have isomeric character with half-lives of 0.6(2) and 1.7(3) ns, respectively [17]. These lifetimes are long enough so that the γ -ray emission depopulating these states or lower-lying states that are fed via these states, on average occurs several cm downstream from the target. This affects the relative efficiency of detecting such γ rays depending on the detector angle relative to the beam and hence their angular distribution. An attenuation of the alignment could also be affected by the level lifetimes. Indeed, the angular distributions of transitions below the state at 1.852 MeV were observed to be isotropic. However, the angular distribution of the 150-keV transition below the 0.6-ns isomer at 2.002 MeV was not isotropic. This is consistent with the fact that the half-life of the isomer is shorter than that of the 1.852-MeV level. The half-lives of these two isomers could not be confirmed in this analysis because the experimental setup was not sensitive for such short lifetimes.

Above the isomeric $19/2^+$ level, high-energy γ -ray transitions of ~1.5 MeV connect to the $19/2^-$ level at 3.280 MeV and the $21/2^-$ level at 3.534 MeV. These levels are suggested to be based on the $\pi g_{9/2}^{-1} \otimes v(h_{11/2},g_{7/2})$ configuration, (i.e., a neutron excitation between the $g_{7/2}$ and $h_{11/2}$ subshells). The two sequences of magnetic dipole transitions have previously been observed to connect negative parity states up to $33/2^{(-)}$ [8].

Gamma-ray coincidence relations of previously reported transitions [8] were confirmed as shown in the right part of the partial level scheme in Fig. 2. Table I summarizes γ rays assigned to ¹⁰⁷In. The relative intensity of each γ transition was extracted by fitting the γ - γ correlation matrix by taking into account the γ -ray intensities of feeding transitions, branching ratio, and conversion coefficient of the lower transitions using the ESCL8R program in the RADWARE software package [16].

By gating on the $E_{\gamma}-E_{\gamma}$ matrix and the $E_{\gamma}-E_{\gamma}-E_{\gamma}$ cube, coincidence relations between known γ rays and newly observed γ rays were examined. Figure 3 shows a γ -ray energy spectrum obtained by double gating in the cube on the 1428- and 159-keV transitions, which are members of one of the sequences of magnetic dipole transitions (M1-band 1). Gamma-ray transitions up to the $33/2^{-1}$ level at 6.066 MeV (see Fig. 2) were confirmed and two new transitions, 700 and 839 keV, were placed above this level. These two transitions also have M1 character as shown in Table I.

Figure 4 shows a spectrum obtained by double gating in the cube on the 1532- and 316-keV transitions, which are members



FIG. 2. A level scheme of ¹⁰⁷In constructed in the present study. Transitions below dashed lines were previously identified [8]. Insets (a)–(d) represent the typical angular distribution of γ transitions observed with the present setup. Solid lines are the fitted curve of the angular distribution function $W(\theta)$.

of another M1 sequence (M1-band 2). Gamma-ray transitions up to the $33/2^-$ level at 6.983 MeV were confirmed and, in addition, four γ -ray transitions were observed in coincidence with the sequence. Based on the angular distribution analysis, the multipolarities of these four transitions were assigned as M1 and accordingly the spins and parities of the four levels above the $33/2^-$ level were assigned up to the $41/2^-$ level at 8.977 MeV.

In addition to the above-mentioned M1 transitions, a rotational γ -ray cascade (STB1) consisting of the 514-, 659-, 823-, 934-, 1055-, 1220-, 1389-, 1573-, and 1789-keV transitions was observed by gating on the E_{γ} - E_{γ} matrix as

$\frac{E_{\gamma}^{a}}{(\text{keV})}$	$I^{(\mathrm{rel.})}\gamma^{b}$	E_i^{c} (keV)	a_2	<i>a</i> ₄	J_i^{π}	\rightarrow	J_f^π			
109.3	14(2)	3643	-0.23(17)	0.24(23)	23/2-	\rightarrow	21/2-			
149.8	768(48)	2002	-0.260(15)	0.025(22)	$\frac{23}{2}^{+}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{21}{2}^{+}$			
158.6	183(12)	3439	-0.266(16)	0.023(22) 0.003(22)	$\frac{1}{2}/2^{-}$	\rightarrow	$19/2^{-1}$			
204.0	437(26)	3643	-0.280(15)	0.005(22)	$\frac{21}{2}$ $\frac{23}{2}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{17}{2}$			
251.2	50(3)	5562	-0.242(47)	0.003(22) 0.132(69)	$\frac{23}{2}$ $\frac{31}{2}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{21}{2}$			
288.4	17(2)	5070	-0.36(12)	0.102(0)	29/2	\rightarrow	27/2			
315.6	175(12)	3850	-0.224(21)	0.025(31)	$\frac{2}{23}/2^{-}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{21}{2^{-1}}$			
351.4	33(3)	4100	-0.30(18)	-0.08(28)	$\frac{23}{2^{-}}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{21}{2}^{-1}$			
359.6	115(8)	4209	-0.236(27)	0.00(20)	$\frac{25}{2^{-}}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{21}{2}$			
382.9	194(12)	5562	-0.272(14)	0.070(21)	$\frac{20}{2}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{29}{2^{-1}}$			
393.0	580(36)	4036	-0.219(25)	0.070(21) 0.024(37)	$\frac{31}{2}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{27}{2}$			
400.2	53(4)	8977	-0.244(31)	0.021(57)	$\frac{23}{2}$ $41/2^{-}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{29}{2}$			
413.2	289(22)	1414	-0.101(62)	0.117(88)	$13/2^+$	\rightarrow	$\frac{37}{2}$			
426.3	59(6)	4526	-0.484(51)	-0.004(74)	$\frac{15}{2}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{11}{2}$			
438.2	1000(60)	1852	0.071(31)	0.068(45)	$\frac{23}{2}^{+}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{23}{2}$ $\frac{13}{2}$			
443.6	62(5)	5654	-0.383(29)	0.154(43)	$\frac{1}{2^{-}}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{10}{2}$			
454.4	33(3)	5340	-0.218(40)	0.076(59)	$\frac{31}{2}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{27}{2^{-}}$			
460 5	63(4)	7444	-0.206(2)	0.076(2)	$\frac{25}{2}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{27}{2}$			
469.6	48(6)	3749	-0.094(38)	0.030(2)	$\frac{33}{2}$	\rightarrow	$19/2^{-1}$			
488.2	75(6)	5207	-0.204(38)	-0.025(56)	$\frac{21}{2}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{17}{2}$			
503.4	167(10)	6066	-0.237(52)	-0.053(78)	$\frac{23}{2}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{27}{2}$			
509.3	69(6)	4719	-0.238(41)	0.140(60)	27/2-	\rightarrow	$\frac{31}{2}$			
514.3	75(8)	5779	0.276(59)	-0.109(87)	(27/2)	\rightarrow	(23/2)			
532.1	276(18)	5180	-0.180(1)	0.039(2)	$\frac{(2112)}{29/2^{-}}$	\rightarrow	(23/2) 27/2 ⁻			
537.7	54(4)	7982	-0.286(34)	0.039(2) 0.188(50)	$\frac{27}{2}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{27}{2}$			
550.1	58(5)	5890	-0.242(33)	0.138(48)	$\frac{31}{2^{-}}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{33}{2}$			
551.1	31(4)	3439	0.212(00)	0.120(10)	$\frac{31}{2}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{29}{2}$			
593.8	5(3)	4333			$\frac{21}{2}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{23}{2}$			
595.5	56(4)	8577	-0.325(14)	0.025(21)	$\frac{21}{2}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{25}{2}$			
611.3	463(28)	4648	-0.131(31)	-0.017(45)	$\frac{37}{2^{-}}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{37}{2}$			
644.5	87(8)	4745	-0.187(24)	-0.063(35)	$\frac{25}{2^{-}}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{23}{2^{-1}}$			
659.0	90(8)	6439	0.278(36)	-0.126(53)	(31/2)	\rightarrow	(27/2)			
659.7	83(10)	4100	01210(00)		$\frac{(2-1)^{-1}}{23/2^{-1}}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{(-1)^{-1}}{21/2^{-1}}$			
663.2	89(8)	5311	-0.225(35)	0.048(55)	$\frac{29}{2^{-}}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{27}{2^{-1}}$			
676.6	52(5)	4886	-0.03(10)	0.11(16)	$\frac{27}{2^{-1}}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{25}{2^{-1}}$			
700.4	73(6)	6766	-0.291(60)	-0.067(93)	$35/2^{-}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{-2}{33}/2^{-1}$			
741.5	45(4)	3534	0.243(61)	-0.155(93)	$21/2^{-}$	\rightarrow	$21/2^+$			
791.0	419(28)	2793	-0.122(31)	0.023(52)	$\frac{21}{2^+}$	\rightarrow	$19/2^+$			
823.1	81(10)	7262	0.242(17)	-0.124(68)	(35/2)	\rightarrow	(31/2)			
838.8	45(4)	7605	-0.179(34)	0.040(52)	$37/2^{-}$	\rightarrow	$35/2^{-1}$			
850.6	133(10)	3643	-0.296(4)	0.038(6)	$\frac{23}{2^{-}}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{21}{2^+}$			
932.4	58(12)	5265			(23/2)	\rightarrow	21/2			
934.0	75(12)	8196	0.253(54)	-0.183(81)	(39/2)	\rightarrow	(35/2)			
945.8	57(8)	3739	-0.16(11)	0.19(16)	$\frac{(23)}{23/2}$	\rightarrow	$\frac{(22)}{21/2^+}$			
1000.4	234(18)	1001	-0.050(36)	-0.076(53)	$\frac{11}{2^+}$	\rightarrow	$9/2^+$			
1032.8	66(14)	2887	0.16(10)	0.13(16)	$19^{\prime}/2^{-}$	\rightarrow	$17/2^+$			
1042.8	43(6)	4782	0.148(81)	-0.13(13)	27/2	\rightarrow	23/2			
1055.0	68(12)	9251	0.241(24)	-0.089(37)	(43/2)	\rightarrow	(39/2)			
1143.8	35(5)	5180	0.248(57)	-0.038(85)	29/2-	\rightarrow	25/2-			
1220.1	49(12)	10471	0.297(41)	-0.045(61)	(47/2)	\rightarrow	(43/2)			
1278.0	45(5)	3280	0.327(39)	-0.067(55)	19/2-	\rightarrow	$19/2^{+}$			
1333.2	50(4)	6983	-0.319(29)	0.059(44)	33/2-	\rightarrow	31/2-			
1389.0	30(8)	11860	0.263(29)	0.028(45)	(51/2)	\rightarrow	(47/2)			
1414.0	690(60)	1414	0.047(29)	0.004(43)	$13/2^{+}$	\rightarrow	$9/2^{+}$			
1428.1	199(18)	3280	-0.137(25)	0.084(38)	19/2-	\rightarrow	$17/2^{+}$			

TABLE I. Gamma rays assigned to ¹⁰⁷In.

E_{γ}^{a} (keV)	$I^{(\mathrm{rel.})}\gamma^{\mathrm{b}}$	E_i^{c} (keV)	<i>a</i> ₂	a_4	J_i^{π}	\rightarrow	J_f^π
1437.4	290(18)	3439	-0.207(22)	0.049(35)	21/2-	\rightarrow	19/2+
1527.0	18(4)	5265			(23/2)	\rightarrow	23/2
1532.3	172(14)	3534	-0.337(10)	-0.036(15)	$21/2^{-}$	\rightarrow	$19/2^{+}$
1573.3	20(2)	13434	0.29(17)	-0.06(27)	(55/2)	\rightarrow	(51/2)
1746.5	48(6)	3749	-0.322(67)	0.026(96)	$21/2^{-}$	\rightarrow	$19/2^{+}$
1789.4	9(2)	15223			(59/2)	\rightarrow	(55/2)
1969.7	3(1)	17193			(63/2)	\rightarrow	(59/2)
2330.5	17(2)	4333	0.23(9)	0.24(13)	21/2	\rightarrow	$19/2^{+}$

TABLE I. (Continued.)

^aTransition energies accurate to within ± 0.5 keV.

^bIntensities are normalized to 1000 for the 438-keV γ transition.

^cExcitation energies of initial states of γ transitions.

shown in Figs. 2 and 5. A 1970-keV transition was tentatively placed on top of the band. The 934-keV transition has a larger intensity than the other neighboring in-band transitions, 823 and 1055 keV, because it is a self-coincident doublet decomposed of a 932-keV and a 934-keV transition. Based on the intensity balance of the in-band transitions, a rotational band structure was assigned as shown in the left part of Fig. 2. In addition, the 2331-keV γ ray is observed to be in coincidence with the assigned in-band transitions as well as the low-lying transitions, 150, 438, 413, and 1414 keV (see Fig. 6). Because this γ ray is strongly in coincidence with the lowest-lying member of the band, as well as with the 932-, 934-keV doublet, the decay path of the band is formed to precede the cascade of 932- and 2331-keV transitions to the $19/2^+$ state at 2.002 MeV as shown in the level scheme. Note that the intensity of the 932-keV transition in Table I is larger than the sum of the 2331- and 594-keV intensities. Our interpretation is that there might be several weak unidentified γ transitions decaying from the 4.333-MeV level carrying the intensity not accounted for. For example, in the double-gated

spectrum on the in-band transitions (Fig. 5), a peak appeared at 1033 keV. This indicates the presence of a linking transition from the 4.333-MeV level to the 2.887-MeV level. However, any such γ transitions were not observed due to the low statistics.

There is another decay path of the band via the 1527-keV transition from the 5.265-MeV state to the 3.739-MeV state. Figure 7 shows a γ -ray energy spectrum created by gating on the in-band transitions of STB1 on one axis, and the 946-, 791-, 150-, 438-, 413-, 1000-, and 1414-keV transitions on the other axis of the $\gamma\gamma\gamma$ cube. As shown in the figure, the 594- and 1527-keV transitions are coincident with the in-band transitions above the 5.265-MeV level as well as transitions below 3.739-MeV level. These 594- and 1527-keV transitions correspond to the links from the 4.333- to 3.739-MeV level and from the 5.265- to 3.739-MeV level, respectively. These two decay paths establish the excitation energy of the observed lowest level of the band to be 5.265 MeV.

In Fig. 5, the 1573-keV peak appears stronger than the 1527-keV peak compared to the relative intensities presented



FIG. 3. Gamma-ray energy spectrum gated by the 1428- and 159-keV transitions. The inset enlarges the region between 600 keV and 1 MeV.



FIG. 4. Gamma-ray energy spectrum gated by the 1532- and 316-keV transitions. The inset enlarges the region between 350 and 650 keV.



FIG. 5. Sum of γ -ray energy spectra created by double gating on the in-band transitions of the rotational band (STB1). The inset enlarges the region between 1.45 and 2.5 MeV.

in Table I. Because the spectrum shown in Fig. 5 was created by double gating on the in-band transitions of STB1, including the 932-, 934-keV doublet, it contains double gating between the 932-keV γ ray and other γ rays of STB1. Therefore, the counts in the 1573-keV peak in Fig. 5 were artificially increased relative to that of the 1527-keV transition.

The excitation energies of the yrast levels and the levels in the STB1 were plotted as a function of spin in the upper panel of Fig. 8. In the lower panel of Fig. 8, relative intensities of the yrast transitions and the in-band transitions are plotted. One can see that the M1-band 1 becomes yrast above spin $10\hbar$, and that the STB1 becomes yrast around spin $18\hbar$. The intensity profiles are consistent with the trend of yrast sequences formed by M1-band 1 and STB1.

Multipolarity assignments for the observed γ -ray transitions were deduced from the angular distribution analysis. Figure 9 displays the a_2 and a_4 coefficients of the γ -ray angular



FIG. 6. Gamma-ray energy spectrum gated by the 2331-keV linking transition from the γ - γ matrix.



FIG. 7. Gamma-ray energy spectrum created by gating on the in-band transition of the rotational band in one axis, and the 946-, 791-, 150-, 438-, 413-, 1000-, and 1414-keV transitions in the other axis of the $\gamma\gamma\gamma$ cube. The insets enlarge the regions from 0.5 to 0.7 MeV, and from 1.45 to 1.65 MeV, respectively.

distribution function plotted as a function of the γ -ray energy. Solid circles and solid triangles correspond to the angular distribution of known M1 transitions and $\Delta I = 0$ E1 transitions, respectively, which agree with theoretical estimates. Open circles are for the γ -ray transitions decaying from the isomeric state at 1.852 MeV and they show small values as expected. Open triangles correspond to those of the newly identified



FIG. 8. Excitation energies of the yrast levels and the levels in the rotational band as a function of spin (upper panel). Relative intensities of yrast γ transitions and those of the band are plotted as a function of spin in the lower panel.



FIG. 9. A plot of a_2 and a_4 coefficients of γ -ray angular distributions, $W(\theta) = a_0[1 + a_2P_2(\cos\theta) + a_4P_4(\cos\theta)]$, as a function of γ -ray energy. Here, θ is the emission angle of γ rays relative to the beam axis and $P_n(\cos\theta)$ are the Legendre polynomials. Solid circles and solid triangles correspond to the angular distribution of known M1 and $\Delta I = 0$ E1 transitions, respectively. Open circles indicate those of the transitions below the isomeric state at 1.852 MeV. Open triangles correspond to those of the identified in-band transitions as well as the known E2 transition (1144 keV). The open square is for the case of the 2331-keV linking transition.

cascade transitions, which are consistent with a stretched E2 character.

As shown in Fig. 9, the angular distribution of the 2331-keV linking transition (open square) does not clearly determine its multipolarity due to the low statistics. The positive a_2 value may indicate that it contains a quadrupole component in its multipolarity and the positive a_4 may reflect a mixed transition. To try and resolve this ambiguity, the mixing ratio that satisfies the 99.9% confidence limit test in χ^2 (defined as in Eq. (1) [18]) is plotted as a function of $\tan^{-1}\delta$ in Fig. 10. Three different hypotheses were tested: $19/2 \rightarrow 19/2$, $21/2 \rightarrow 19/2$, and $23/2 \rightarrow 19/2$.

$$\chi^{2} = \frac{[a_{2} - a_{2}(cal)]^{2}}{3(\Delta a_{2})^{2}} + \frac{[a_{4} - a_{4}(cal)]^{2}}{3(\Delta a_{4})^{2}}.$$
 (1)

As indicated in Fig. 10, a parameter " σ/J " is used to implement the initial alignment, where a Gaussian distribution for the magnetic substates is assumed and σ and J denote the width and the spin, respectively. In the calculation, a ratio $\sigma/J =$ 0.1 was assumed. The χ^2 result suggests a mixed E2/M1 or M2/E1 transition, $21/2 \rightarrow 19/2^+$ with a mixing ratio of 0.23. Because the Weisskopf estimate of lifetimes for a 2331-keV γ ray are 0.4 ps for an E2 and 29 ps for an M2 transition, respectively, both cases are short enough for prompt γ coincidence and therefore the parity of the 4.333-MeV state was not determined. Because the decay-out 932-keV γ -ray transition in cascade with the linking transition is close in energy to the 934-keV in-band transition, its multipolarity was not firmly identified. The statistics of another 1527-keV linking transition were too low to perform angular distribution analysis to establish the multipolarity. Under the assumption that a dipole transition connects the lowest level of the band



FIG. 10. χ^2 versus tan⁻¹ δ curves for the 2331-keV transition in ¹⁰⁷In. The parameters indicated were used to compute the curves.

with the 4.333- MeV level, the spin of the band was assigned as starting with (23/2) as shown in Fig. 2.

IV. DISCUSSION

In this mass region, the presence of rotational bands has been reported previously in the N = 58 isotones, ¹⁰⁵Ag, ¹⁰⁶Cd, ¹⁰⁸Sn, ¹⁰⁹Sb, ¹¹⁰Te, and ¹¹¹I [3,6,7,19–23]. Among them, rotational bands exhibiting a character of smooth band termination appeared only in ¹⁰⁸Sn, ¹⁰⁹Sb, and ¹¹⁰Te.

In Fig. 11, deduced dynamical moments of inertia $J^{(2)}$ are shown as a function of rotational frequency. Here, the rotational frequency (ω) and the dynamical moment of inertia



FIG. 11. Experimentally deduced dynamical moments of inertia $J^{(2)}$ in ¹⁰⁷In, ¹⁰⁸Sn, and ¹⁰⁹Sb. The data on ¹⁰⁷In are from the present work.

 $J^{(2)}$ are deduced from the experimental data (E_{γ}) using the formulas,

$$\hbar\omega = \frac{dE}{dI} \approx \frac{E_{\gamma}}{2} \tag{2}$$

and

$$J^{(2)} = \frac{d\mathbf{I}}{d\omega} \approx \frac{4}{\Delta E_{\gamma}},\tag{3}$$

respectively. In addition to the band in ¹⁰⁷In, also the bands in ¹⁰⁸Sn [6], and ¹⁰⁹Sb [22] are shown, which have positive parity for the neutron configuration according to the assignments based on the cranked Nilsson-Strutinsky calculations [24]. In general, all $J^{(2)}$ values show the smooth decrease with increasing rotational frequency, which is characteristic for smooth band termination in systems with weak pairing [4,24]. This feature is disturbed only at the top of the band 1 in ¹⁰⁸Sn. The $J^{(2)}$ values of ¹⁰⁷In show very close similarity with those in bands 2 and 3 of ¹⁰⁸Sn, whereas those in band 1 of ¹⁰⁸Sn and band 1 of ¹⁰⁹Sb are also very similar. This suggests that the structure of the band in ¹⁰⁷In is similar to that of bands 2 and 3 in ¹⁰⁸Sn. Bands 2 and 3 of ¹⁰⁸Sn were interpreted to be signature partner bands with the proton configuration of $\pi[g_{9/2}^{-2} \otimes (g_{7/2}h_{11/2})]$ [6,25]. On the other hand, band 1 of ¹⁰⁸Sn and ¹⁰⁹Sb were understood to have configurations of $\pi[g_{9/2}^{-2} \otimes g_{7/2}^2]$ and $\pi[g_{9/2}^{-2} \otimes g_{7/2}^2 h_{11/2}]$, respectively. The hump observed in the $J^{(2)}$ plot for band 1 of 108 Sn and 109 Sb, appearing at ~0.55 MeV, was interpreted as being from the alignment of $g_{7/2}$ protons based on cranked Woods-Saxon calculations [25]. These results indicate that deformation-driving down-sloping $\pi g_{7/2}$ and $\pi h_{11/2}$ orbitals and, especially, the holes in the $\pi g_{9/2}$ extruder orbitals play an important role to create the rotational band structures that undergo smooth band termination in this mass region [24]. In the case of ¹⁰⁷In, possible configurations of the observed band (STB1) would be $\pi[g_{9/2}^{-2} \otimes g_{7/2}]$ or $\pi[g_{9/2}^{-2} \otimes h_{11/2}]$ generated by removing one proton from ¹⁰⁸Sn.

Cranked Strutinsky calculations based on the Woods-Saxon (WS) [26] and Nilsson (CNS) [4,24] potentials were performed to interpret the structure of the observed rotational band (STB1). In the former total Routhian Surface (TRS) calculations, pairing correlations were taken into account by means of a seniority and double-stretched quadrupole pairing force [27]. Approximate particle number projection was performed via the Lipkin-Nogami method [28,29]. Each quasiparticle configuration was blocked self-consistently. The energy in the rotating frame of reference was minimized with respect to the deformation parameters β_2 , β_4 , and γ . Deformed minima in the total Routhian surfaces (TRS) were found at $(\beta_2, \gamma) \sim (0.20, 10^\circ)$ for both signatures at positive parity $(\pi,\alpha) = (+,\pm 1/2)$ and at $(\beta_2, \gamma) \sim (0.25, 8^\circ)$ for the negative parity, negative signature configuration (-,-1/2) as shown in Fig. 12. The structure of the experimentally observed rotational band (STB1) in ¹⁰⁷In is likely to correspond to one of these configurations.

Excitation energies and kinematic $[J^{(1)}]$ and dynamic $[J^{(2)}]$ moments of inertia obtained from the TRS calculations are compared with experimental values in Fig. 13. To deduce the

PHYSICAL REVIEW C 81, 034303 (2010)



FIG. 12. Calculated total Routhian surfaces (TRS) at a rotational frequency of 0.75 MeV. The lowest positive-parity configurations with signature +1/2 and -1/2 are shown in the left and right upper panels, respectively, whereas the lowest negative-parity configuration with signature -1/2 is plotted on the lower left panel.

experimental $J^{(1)}$ moment of inertia, we have assumed the spin of the lowest level of the band to be 23/2. The TRS calculation shows that the configuration of positive parity with negative signature (+, -1/2) is lowest in energy among the predicted configurations in the frequency range of interest. However, as can be seen in Fig. 13, $J^{(1)}$ and $J^{(2)}$ moments of inertia for $(+, \pm 1/2)$ configurations show quite different behavior comparing with the experimental values. On the other hand, the configuration with (-, -1/2) is in better agreement with the experimental properties except for the high-frequency region. However, it is quite likely that the TRS calculations overestimate the role of pairing at high spin and this leads to observed discrepancies between experiment and calculations.

In the CNS [4,24] calculations, the pairing is neglected and thus the results are expected to be realistic only at high spin, $I \ge 15 \hbar$. In general, a very good agreement [4] between the CNS calculations and observed high-spin bands in this mass region has been obtained with the κ - and μ -values from Ref. [30] and these are the values that are also used in the present study. The calculations in the current analysis are performed using the CNS version of Ref. [31], so that not only the relative energies between the bands but also the absolute energy scale can be compared. The single-particle configurations are defined by the occupation of low- and high-j orbitals. The total energy of each configuration is minimized at each spin in the $(\varepsilon_2, \varepsilon_4, \gamma)$ deformation plane. Standard CNS labeling of each configuration is used. This shorthand notation is based on the number of particles in different jshells for each configuration. The *i* shells are pure only if the shape is spherical. Thus, in general, the labeling refers to the dominant shell only, whereas the wave functions also contain components from other N and j shells. Relative to a closed



FIG. 13. Comparison of experimental and calculated excitation energies, $J^{(1)}$ and $J^{(2)}$ moments of inertia as a function of rotational frequency. The highest-frequency data point, which is originated from the tentatively assigned 1970-keV transition, is also included in the plot. Theoretical values were obtained by TRS calculations. The dashed line marks the rigid-body moment of inertia for a deformation parameter $\beta_2 = 0.25$.

¹⁰⁰Sn core, a shorthand configuration label $[(p_1)p_2p_3, (n_1)n_2]$ can be written as [4]

$$[(p_1)p_2p_3, (n_1)n_2] = \pi (N = 3)^{-p_1} (g_{9/2})^{p_2} (h_{11/2})^{p_3}$$

$$\otimes \nu (N = 3)^{-n_1} (h_{11/2})^{n_2}, \qquad (4)$$

with the remaining particles (protons and neutrons) outside the core located in the mixed $(d_{5/2} g_{7/2})$ orbitals. The label p_1 (n_1) is dropped if no holes are generated in the N = 3 proton (neutron) shell.

The results of the calculations are shown in Fig. 14. One can see that the [20,2] configuration dominates the yrast line in the spin range $I = 20 - 31\hbar$. This configuration is therefore the most likely counterpart for the observed decoupled $\Delta I = 2$ band. Figure 15 compares the experimental band with the results of the calculations. Figure 15(a) shows the experimental band for three different spin assignments I_0 for the lowest state in the band. Figure 15(b) displays the configurations that can be possible counterparts of the experimental band. In Figs. 15(a) and 15(b), the y axis denotes the energy with the rotating liquid drop (rld) energy [31] subtracted. The energy difference between the predictions and observations is plotted in Fig. 15(c). In the ideal case when the transition energies will be predicted correctly by the calculations for each transition in the band, the curve of the band in Fig. 15(c)

will have a constant energy difference for all states of a given configuration (i.e., it will be horizontal). Furthermore, if the absolute energy is predicted correctly, this difference should be zero with the experience [31] that the difference will generally be smaller than 1 MeV (i.e., the absolute energy at high spin can be described with a similar accuracy as ground-state masses). One can see that reasonable agreement between theory and experiment is obtained when the [20,2] configuration is assigned to the band; the deviation from the horizontal line in Fig. 15(c) of \sim 1 MeV is at the upper limit of the typical discrepancies between theory and experiment. For this configuration assignment, the observed band in ¹⁰⁷In is one transition short of termination. Further support for this configuration assignment comes from the analysis of the configurations of the smooth terminating bands in the N = 58 isotones (see Fig. 23 in Ref. [4]). In ¹⁰⁸Sn, the yrast line in the spin range $I = 20 - 28\hbar$ is dominated by the [20,2] configuration. This is exactly the same configuration (in terms of shorthand notation) as we assign to the $\Delta I = 2$ band in ¹⁰⁷In. The difference between the [20,2] configurations in these two nuclei is related to an occupation of the extra $(d_{5/2} g_{7/2})$ proton in ¹⁰⁸Sn. Note also that this configuration assignment fits exactly into the systematics of the configurations of smooth terminating bands observed in this mass region (see Figs. 20 and 23 in Ref. [4]). Indeed, according to this figure, the present



FIG. 14. (Color online) Calculated energies of the configurations forming the yrast line in four combinations of parity and signature shown relative to rigid rotor reference. Large open circles indicate terminating and aligned states. Solid and dashed lines are used for positive and negative parity states, respectively. Solid and open symbols are used for the signatures $\alpha = +1/2$ and $\alpha = -1/2$, respectively. Configuration labels are shown in the legend.

signature $\alpha = -1/2$ [20,2] band is predicted to be the most favored smooth terminating band in ¹⁰⁷In.

The evolution of the potential energy surfaces for the [20,2] configuration is shown in Fig. 16. This configuration displays typical features of smooth band termination gradually evolving from near-prolate shape at low spin up to a noncollective oblate shape at the terminating state with $I^{\pi} = 67/2^+$. These energy surfaces are very regular thus showing no disturbances, neither from mixing with aligned states within the same configuration (see Ref. [4] for more details of such mechanism) nor from mixing with other collective configurations. This is a consequence of the fact that the nuclear system attempts to avoid a high-level density in the vicinity of the Fermi level by a gradual adjustment of the equilibrium deformation with increasing spin [4].

Taking into account the uncertainty of spin-parity definition of the experimental $\Delta I = 2$ band, one can also consider alternative configuration assignments. These are the [30,2], [20,3], and [21,2] configurations (Fig. 14). The [30,2] configuration involves an additional excitation from the proton $g_{9/2}$ subshell, whereas the [20,3] ([21,2]) configurations are built from the [20,2] configuration by moving the neutron from $(d_{5/2} g_{7/2})$ into $h_{11/2}$ [by moving the proton from $(d_{5/2} g_{7/2})$ into $h_{11/2}$]. These changes require additional energy, and thus these configurations are less energetically favored than [20,2] [Figs. 14 and 15(b)]. In addition, the spin of the lowest state in the band has to be changed either to 21/2 or to 25/2 if either the [30,2] or [20,3] configuration is to be assigned to the experimental band. Note that the calculated energies for the [20,3] and [30,2] configurations are similar [Fig. 15(b)]. Thus, the [20,3] configuration is not shown in Fig. 15(c). The systematics of the configuration assignments for smoothly terminating bands in the N = 58 isotones



FIG. 15. (Color online) Comparison between the experimentally observed $\Delta I = 2$ rotational band (STB1) and the CNS predictions for selected configurations. The top panel shows the experimental band with different spin assignments I_0 for the lowest observed state. The middle panel shows the chosen predicted configurations. The bottom panel plots the energy difference between the predictions and observations.

(Figs. 20 and 23 in Ref. [4]) also disfavors the assignment of these configurations. A "[21" proton configuration corresponds to $\pi(g_{9/2})^{-2}(h_{11/2})^1$ (i.e., the first $h_{11/2}$ orbital is filled before any positive parity orbital above Z = 50 is filled, which is clearly unexpected considering that the $h_{11/2}$ shell is located substantially higher in energy than the $g_{7/2}$ (and $d_{5/2}$) subshell. Indeed, the configurations of this type become yrast in neighboring ¹⁰⁸Sn nucleus only above $I \approx 28\hbar$. Furthermore, configurations of the type [30,2] with three $g_{9/2}$ proton holes have not been assigned to any smooth terminating band in this region whereas configurations with three $g_{9/2}$ neutrons are only energetically favored at higher spin values, $I \approx 30-40$ (Ref. [4]).

One can see that it is only the [20,2] configuration that gives a reasonable description of the experimental data. Note that the energy difference between calculations and experiment for the [20,2] configuration [Fig. 15(c)] is similar to that for other terminating bands in this region (see Fig. 1 of Ref. [31]) with a constant and somewhat negative value around 0.5–0.8 MeV in an extended spin range before termination. All the other curves show very different features. Thus, the CNS comparison with experiment clearly selects the [20,2] configuration as the only reasonable assignment for the observed band.



FIG. 16. (Color online) Evolution of the potential energy surfaces (PES) for the [20,2] configuration in ¹⁰⁷In. The six PES figures are given in steps of 4ħ from the near-prolate state at $I = 13.5^+$ up to the terminating state at $I = 33.5^+$. The energy difference between two neighboring equipotential lines is 0.2 MeV and the last equipotential line corresponds to 4.0-MeV excitation with respect to the minimum.

V. SUMMARY

In summary, a rotational band structure with ten E2 cascade transitions has been observed in ¹⁰⁷In. The $J^{(1)}$ and $J^{(2)}$ moments of the band exhibit a gradual decrease with increasing rotational frequency, a typical characteristic of the smoothly terminating bands in this mass region. The experimental results were compared with Total Routhian Surface (TRS) and Cranked Nilsson-Strutinsky (CNS) calculations. In the former case, pairing was taken into account and in the latter, it was neglected. In both calculations, the configuration with positive parity and negative signature (+, -1/2) was energetically most favored in the spin range $I = 20-31\hbar$. According to the CNS calculations, the observed band has a [20,2] structure: under this configuration assignment it is one transition short of termination. However, the TRS calculations give some preference for a negative parity assignment instead, corresponding to an approximate [21,2] configuration at high spin using the CNS labels. Further experimental investigations of this nucleus will be useful to observe higher spin levels and definitely fix the spin of the observed band.

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