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Single-Particle Structure of Neutron-Rich Sr Isotopes Via $d(^{94,95,96}\text{Sr},p)$ Reactions

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Background: The region around neutron number N=60 in the neutron-rich Sr and Zr nuclei is one of the most dramatic examples of a ground state shape transition from (near) spherical below N=60 to strongly deformed shapes in the heavier isotopes.

Purpose: The single-particle structure of $^{95-97}$ Sr approaching the ground state shape transition at 98 Sr has been investigated via single-neutron transfer reactions using the (d,p) reaction in inverse kinematics. These reactions selectively populate states with a large overlap of the projectile ground state coupled to a neutron in a single-particle orbital.

Method: Radioactive 94,95,96 Sr nuclei with energies of 5.5 AMeV were used to bombard a CD₂ target. Recoiling light charged particles and γ rays were detected using a quasi- 4π silicon strip detector array and a 12 element Ge array. The excitation energy of states populated was reconstructed employing the missing mass method combined with γ -ray tagging and differential cross sections for final states were extracted.

Results: A reaction model analysis of the angular distributions allowed for firm spin assignments to be made for the low-lying 352, 556 and 681 keV excited states in 95 Sr and a constraint has been placed on the spin of the higher-lying 1666 keV state. Angular distributions have been extracted for 10 states populated in the $d(^{95}$ Sr, $p)^{96}$ Sr reaction, and constraints have been provided for the spins and parities of several final states. Additionally, the 0, 167 and 522 keV states in 97 Sr were populated through the $d(^{96}$ Sr, p) reaction. Spectroscopic factors for all three reactions were extracted.

Conclusions: Results are compared to shell model calculations in several model spaces and the structure of low-lying states in 94 Sr and 95 Sr is well-described. The spectroscopic strength of the 0^+ and 2^+ states in 96 Sr is significantly more fragmented than predicted. The spectroscopic factors for the $d(^{96}$ Sr, $p)^{97}$ Sr reaction suggest that the two lowest lying excited states have significant overlap with the weakly deformed ground state of 96 Sr, but the ground state of 97 Sr has a different structure.

I. INTRODUCTION

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An atomic nucleus can deform its shape in order to minimize its energy. This is observed across the nuclear landscape, both in ground states and excited states. Indeed, it seems that even a small number of valence protons and neutrons outside of a closed core can drive the whole nucleus into a deformed shape. The long-range attractive residual proton-neutron (p-n) interaction also lows the nucleus to gain additional binding energy by

arranging the nucleons in certain ways across the valence orbitals, which in turn causes a departure from sphericaity [1]. The expense of such re-arrangements is dependent on the size of the energy gaps between single-particle orbitals above the Fermi energy. If the energy spacing is small, the valence nucleons can scatter into valence orbitals which are above the Fermi energy and drive the nucleus into a low-energy deformed configuration. On the other hand, if the energy spacing is large, the valence nucleons are unable to scatter into higher orbitals and this favors spherical shapes. The size of these energy gaps is in turn dependent on the number of valence nu-

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44 interaction. Clearly, the underlying shell structure of nu- 102 able. While numerous experiments have provided useful 45 clei plays an important role in the propensity for nuclei 103 information on the Sr isotopes [2, 4, 28–34], a firm under-

49 cess, although in some cases the shape can change dra- 107 single-neutron transfer reactions across the neutron-rich matically with the addition of just a few nucleons. A 108 Sr isotopes 94,95,96 Sr. The main results for the $d(^{95}$ Sr, p)in the ground states takes place at $N\sim60$. The ground 111 ysis as well as further results. state shape transition has been measured directly using 55 laser spectroscopy, as a sudden increase in charge radii ₅₆ at N=60 [2]. This is also evidenced by the sudden drop ₁₁₂ ₅₇ in 2_1^+ energies across the even-even isotopes at $N \geq 60$, ₁₁₃ which indicates that the ground state shape changes from 59 a nearly spherical structure to a strongly deformed pro-60 late $(\beta \sim 0.4)$ structure [3]. Recent Coulomb excitation 61 measurements have established that the ground state of 96 Sr and the 0_2^+ state in 98 Sr possess similar structures 63 which, assuming axial symmetry, correspond to weakly deformed shapes with $\beta \sim 0.1$ [4]. In the N=56 isotope ⁹⁴Sr, recent re-determination of the $B(E2; 2_1^+ \rightarrow 0_1^+)$ value from a lifetime measurement [5] supports the interpretation that the ground state in ⁹⁴Sr is close to spherical. Taken together, these measurements point towards a gradual evolution in shape up to $N \sim 58$ with $\beta \leq 0.1$ which then rapidly changes at N=60 to $\beta\sim0.4$ for the ground state. However, the degree of deformation in the ground state of the N = 59 nucleus 97 Sr is not well understood although the spin and parity of the ground state has been established as $1/2^+$, which is not expected within the spherical shell model. The magnetic moments of the $^{95,97}\mathrm{Sr}$ ground states were reported to be very similar through laser spectroscopy [2] and deviate from the shell model expectation.

¹⁰²Mo [7].

particle structure and the interaction between protons 148 ray [37]. and neutrons in certain valence orbitals, namely the spin- 149 100 remains a challenge. Ultimately, advances in theoretical 155 sided silicon strip detector (DSSSD) box sections (DBOX

104 standing of the underlying single-particle configurations The evolution of ground state shapes across an iso- 105 of low-energy states is essential for a detailed descriptopic chain is commonly observed to be a gradual pro- 106 tion of this region This situation motivated a series of striking example of this has been observed across the Sr 109 reaction were already presented in [35]. The present paand Zr isotopic chains, where an abrupt change of shape 110 per discusses the details of the experiment and the anal-

EXPERIMENTAL SETUP AND CONDITIONS

The experiments were performed at the TRIUMF-¹¹⁵ ISAC-II facility [36]. The $d(^{94}Sr, p)$ and $d(^{95,96}Sr, p)$ mea-116 surements were the first high mass (A>30) experiments 117 with a re-accelerated secondary beam to be performed 118 at TRIUMF. The Sr beams were produced by impinging a 480 MeV proton beam on a thick Uranium Carbide $_{120}$ (UC_x) target. Sr atoms diffusing out of the UC_x tar-121 get were selectively ionized into a singly charged (1⁺) 122 state using the TRIUMF Resonant Ionization Laser Ion 123 Source [36] in order to enhance the extraction rate of the Sr species compared to surface-ionized contaminants, 125 also produced within the production target. The cocktail beam was then sent through the ISAC mass separator [36] 127 to produce a beam containing only isotopes of the same $_{128}$ A (94, 95, 96). The beam was then transported to the 129 Charge State Booster where the isotopes were charge-130 bred by an Electron Cyclotron Resonance plasma source 131 to a higher charge state (see Table I for details). This 132 was necessary so that the beam could next be sent to 133 the Radio-Frequency Quadrupole (RFQ), which accepts Also of interest is the emergence of shape-coexisting $_{134}$ a maximum mass-to-charge ratio (A/q) of 30 [36]. Instates in the vicinity of $N\sim60$ and $Z\sim40$. A very 135 side the RFQ, time-dependent electric fields were tuned strong E0 transition between the 1229 and 1465 keV ex- 136 to accelerate the specific A/q of Sr ions. Contaminant 82 cited 0^+ states in $^{96}\mathrm{Sr}$, with $\rho^2(E0)=0.185(50)$ [6] is 137 isotopes in the beam were mismatched with the acceleration 83 a strong indicator of mixing between states which have 138 ation phase of the RFQ and so did not undergo any acdifferent intrinsic deformations. Enhanced E0 transition 139 celeration. Following the RFQ, these contaminants were strengths between low-lying 0^+ states have also been observed in the nearby nuclei ${}^{98}\mathrm{Sr}$, ${}^{98}\mathrm{Zr}$, ${}^{100}\mathrm{Zr}$, ${}^{100}\mathrm{Mo}$ and 141 nets in the accelerator chain. The beams were transported to the ISAC-II facility where their kinetic energy The $N \sim 60, Z \sim 40$ region of the nuclear chart has 143 was increased to 5.5 AMeV using the superconducting been the subject of substantial interest theoretically for 144 linear accelerator [36]. Finally, the beams were trans-90 many years [8–27]. It has been shown that the emer- 145 ported to the experimental station where they impinged gence of deformed low-energy configurations can be ex- 146 upon 0.5 mg/cm² deuterated polyethylene (CD₂) targets, plained in the shell model by the evolution of single- 147 mounted in the center of the SHARC silicon detector ar-

SHARC (Silicon Highly-segmented Array for Reacorbit partner orbitals $\pi 0g_{9/2}$ and $\nu 0g_{7/2}$ [9, 10]. State- 150 tions and Coulex) is a compact arrangement of doubleof-the-art beyond mean field calculations have been able 151 sided silicon strip detectors which is optimized for high to reproduce the observed shape transition at N=60 in 152 geometrical efficiency and excellent spatial resolution, Sr, Zr and Mo [20, 21], although correctly predicting the 153 with $\Delta\theta_{\rm lab} \sim 1^{\circ}$ and ϕ coverage of approximately 90%. ground state spins and parities of the odd-mass isotopes 154 The SHARC array configuration consists of two double-101 models are limited by the experimental data that is avail- 156 and UBOX) and an annular DSSSD detector (UQQQ).

157 The downstream DBOX section, with the approximate 215 Further details regarding the beam are given in Table I. angular range $35^{\circ} < \theta_{\rm lab} < 80^{\circ}$, was configured using a $\Delta E - E$ detector arrangement (140 μm DSSSDs 160 and 1 mm thick unsegmented pad detectors) so that different ions could be identified (Fig. 1). For scat-162 tering angles $\theta_{\rm lab}$ < 90° elastic scattering of protons 163 and deuterons overlaps with the kinematic lines of the 164 transfer reactions requiring the particle identification. In 165 the upstream UBOX (95° $< \theta_{\rm lab} < 140^{\circ})$ and UQQQ $_{166}$ (147° $< \theta_{\rm lab} < 172^{\circ}$) sections, particle identification was not used as only protons are emitted with $\theta_{\rm lab} > 90^{\circ}$ (as 168 shown in Fig. 1). Background events arise from β decay 216 of radioactive beam accidentally stopped in the scatter- 217 ing chamber, and light particles emitted in fusion evaporation reactions with carbon in the CD₂ target. The former can be suppressed by the particle identification cut as shown in the inset of Fig. 1 in laboratory forward 174 direction and a cut on the detected energy in backward 219 175 direction. Protons from fusion evaporation reactions con- 220 using standard sources. In the case of TIGRESS ⁶⁰Co 176 tribute a continuous background to the excitation energy 221 and 152 Eu sources were used to obtain the energy and ef-₁₇₇ spectra. This background is more pronounced at labo-₂₂₂ ficiency calibrations of each detector. The ΔE detectors 178 ratory forward angles due to the forward focusing of the 223 of SHARC were calibrated using a triple alpha source. reaction products. If unambiguous identification of the 224 The E detectors were calibrated using the proton and 180 state populated in the reaction by γ -ray coincidences is 225 deuteron elastic scattering data, which was acquired sipossible the residual background is negligible.

The SHARC array was mounted in the center of the TI-GRESS γ -ray detector array [38]. In these experiments, TIGRESS was composed of 12 HPGe clover detectors 185 arranged in a compact hemispherical arrangement with approximately 2π steradians geometrical coverage (see Fig. 2 of [39]). The individual crystals contain an electrical core contact and eight-fold electrical segmentation on the outer contact; four quadrants and a lateral divide, giving an overall 32-fold segmentation within each clover. This segmentation enhances the sensitivity to the emission angle of the γ ray to enable more precise Doppler reconstruction. For transitions from states with very short lifetimes the in-beam resolution after Doppler 195 corrections amounts to 0.6 %. The segmented design also 196 made it possible to improve the quality of the data taken in TIGRESS by using add-back to reconstruct full γ -ray energies from multiple scattering events. The Compton suppressor shields were not used in the present work.

The beam composition was measured at regular intervals during the experiment using a Bragg ionization detector [40], which was positioned on another beamline adjacent to the TIGRESS experimental station. The beam composition in each experiment was also analyzed using β -decay data from the radioactive beam-like ions which were scattered onto the DQQQ (not instrumented in the present work). The primary contaminant in each beam were the isobars ^{94–96}Rb. Contributions from nonisobaric A/q contaminants, originating from the ISAC ₂₃₀ CSB, were found to be negligible in the A = 94 and $_{231}$ ²¹¹ 95 beams. However, substantial ¹⁷O contamination was ²³² measured particles was reconstructed by adding calcu- $_{212}$ identified in the first half of the A=96 beam-time due to $_{233}$ lated energy losses using SRIM [41] in the target and Si 213 challenges in beam tuning. Only the data taken during 234 detector dead layers to the energy deposited in SHARC.

Beam	Q [e]	Rate $[s^{-1}]^*$	Duration [days]	Purity [%]
$^{-94}\mathrm{Sr}$	15 ⁺	$\sim 3x10^4$	~ 3	50(5)
$^{95}\mathrm{Sr}$	16^{+}	$\sim 1.5 \mathrm{x} 10^6$	~ 2.5	95(3)
$^{96}\mathrm{Sr}$	17^{+}	$\sim 1 \mathrm{x} 10^4$	~ 1	58(13)

^{*}including contaminations

TABLE I. Summary of the ^{94,95,96}Sr beam properties.

III. ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

The SHARC and TIGRESS detectors were calibrated 226 multaneously with the d(Sr, p) data. Fig. 1 shows the 227 kinetic energy of measured protons and deuterons as a $_{228}$ function of laboratory scattering angle for the $^{95}\mathrm{Sr}$ beam incident on the CD₂ target. The total kinetic energy of

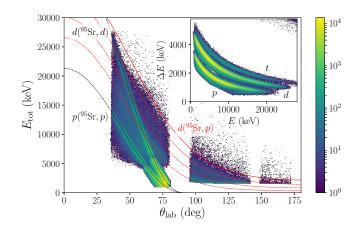


FIG. 1. Kinematics plot for ⁹⁵Sr incident on the CD₂ target, compared to calculated kinematics lines drawn for elastic scattering (black, dotted lines) and (d,p) transfer at 0, 2, 4 and 6 MeV excitation energy (red). In addition to uniquely identified particle in the DBOX, elastic scattered protons and deuterons are shown below the identification threshold of about 5000 keV identified by their kinematic $E(\theta_{lab})$ relation. The inset shows the particle identification plot for the DBOX section (see text), which was used to distinguish between protons and deuterons.

 $_{214}$ the second half of the A=96 beam time was analyzed. $_{225}$ The energy loss correction amounted less than 100 keV

 $_{236}$ for protons in laboratory forward direction as well as for $_{275}$ to vary slowly with A and Z. The parameters used in the 241 scattering angle of the detected particles using the miss- 281 The ratio of proton and deuteron elastic scattering in 242 ing mass method. The excitation energy resolution of 282 each experiment was used to determine the fraction of cited states which were less than approximately 500 keV 288 deuteron content. apart could not be individually resolved. Excited states 289 further in the subsequent sections.

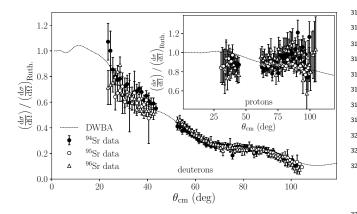


FIG. 2. Comparison of $d(^{94,95,96}Sr, d)$ angular distribution data to DWBA calculations using the optimized optical potential that is given in Table II. The inset shows the comparison of the $p(^{94,95,96}Sr, p)$ data to the global potential PP-76 [45] (see text).

273 in Fig. 2 include the contributions for the beam contami-274 nation (mainly Rb), however the parameters are expected 332 Substantial direct population of the 0, 352 and 681 keV

scattering angles larger than 120°, and up to 500 keV for 276 analysis of the transfer reaction data are summarized in protons scattered close to 100°. Details of the calibration 27% Table II. The overall normalization constant, required methods can be found in ref. [42]. The excitation energy 279 to convert the experimental cross sections into units of (E_x) was reconstructed using the measured energy and 280 mb/sr, was also determined from the elastic scattering. the DBOX, UBOX and UQQQ sections was determined 283 deuterons and protons within the CD₂ target, 96(2)%, to be approximately 550, 450 and 400 keV (FWHM) for 284 92(1)% and 96(2)% deuterons for the 94,95,96 Sr experithe respective angular ranges. The primary contributions 285 ments, respectively. The uncertainties include statistito the energy resolution were the energy loss of the beam 286 cal and reaction model uncertainties. The normalization and proton recoils in the thick target. For this reason, ex- 287 constants were corrected for the beam purity and target

The $d(^{94,95,96}Sr, p)$ reactions were modeled as a singlewere thus identified using the de-excitation γ ray in ad- 290 step process where the transferred neutron populates an dition to an E_x gate [43]. For low statistics cases, such 291 unoccupied valence orbital. By comparing the experias the ⁹⁴Sr and ⁹⁶Sr experiments, a constrained multi- ²⁹² mental cross section for each final state to the calculapeak fit was used to consistently extract the population 293 tions, the spectroscopic factor can be extracted. In adstrengths of unresolved adjacent states. This is discussed 294 dition to the statistical uncertainty, these spectroscopic 295 factors carry a theoretical systematic uncertainty aris-The experimental angular distributions were compared 296 ing from the choice of the reaction model, optical model to distorted wave Born approximation (DWBA) calcula- 297 parameters, and the potential used to calculate the nutions that were carried out using the FRESCO code [44]. 298 cleon bound-state wave function. By comparing different The optical model parameters used in the analysis were 299 parametrizations, this uncertainty has been estimated to determined from fits to the elastic scattering data mea- 300 be 20 %. Relative spectroscopic factors are not affected sured simultaneously. For the proton optical potential 301 by the uncertainty. In order to better gauge the unthe data are not sensitive to the parameters and the 302 certainty arising from the reaction modeling, adiabatic parametrization of ref. [45] was used in the following. 303 distorted wave approximation (ADWA) calculations were Several global optical model parameter sets [45-47] were 304 also performed. For the incoming channel global nucleoncompared to the (d, d) angular distributions and it was 305 nucleus optical model parameters from [48] evaluated at found that the parameters of Lohr and Haeberli [47], with 306 half the beam energy were used. The ADWA model takes some small adjustments, resulted in very good agreement 307 the breakup of the loosely bound deuteron explicitly into with the combined (d,d) data for all three experiments. 308 account, but the reliability at the rather low beam en-The combined fit for $d(^{94,95,96}Sr, d)$ can be seen in Fig. 2. 309 ergies of the present work is not well established. In 270 It should be noted that the angular distributions shown 310 general the ADWA results describe the shape of the an-311 gular distribution better as shown below, and result in 312 smaller spectroscopic factors by about 15% compared to the DWBA.

> By comparing the experimental angular distributions 315 to reaction model calculations the most probable $\Delta \ell$ 316 value was determined for each state using a χ^2 analy-317 sis. It was not possible to differentiate between the spinorbit partner orbitals $1d_{5/2}$ and $1d_{3/2}$ (both $\Delta \ell = 2$), and 319 so both are given as possible scenarios where applicable. The neutron $0h_{11/2}$ ($\ell=5$) orbital was not considered 321 here as the single-particle energy has been estimated as ₃₂₂ 3.5 MeV at ⁹¹Zr [17, 22].

Results for the $d(^{94}Sr, p)^{95}Sr$ reaction

The γ rays and excitation energy of states in 95 Sr that were populated via the $d(^{94}Sr, p)$ reaction are shown in 328 Fig. 3. Strong 329, 352 and 681 keV γ -ray lines can be seen in the $E_{\rm x}$ versus E_{γ} matrix. Fig. 4 shows the $^{95}{\rm Sr}$ 329 level scheme for states that were identified below 2 MeV.

Data	R_c	V_0	R_0	A_0	W_D	R_D	A_D	V_{SO}	R_{SO}	A_{SO}
(d,d), This Work	1.30	109.45	1.07	0.86	10.42	1.37	0.88	7.00	0.75	0.50
(d,d), LH-74 [47]	1.30	109.45	1.05	0.86	10.42	1.43	0.77	7.00	0.75	0.50
(p,p), PP-76 [45]	1.25	58.73	1.25	0.65	13.50	1.25	0.47	7.50	1.25	0.47

TABLE II. Optical model parameters that were used to describe ^{94,95,96}Sr elastic scattering angular distributions in the DWBA calculations (Fig. 2). The global optical model parameters of Lohr and Haeberli (LH-74) [47], with some small adjustments were found to give the best fit to the combined (d, d) data. The global optical model parameters of Perey and Perey (PP-76) were used to describe the combined (p, p) data.

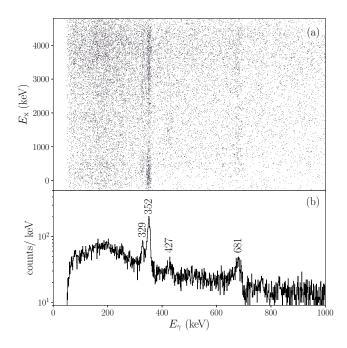


FIG. 3. Excitation energy versus γ -ray energy matrix (upper) and projected γ -ray spectrum (lower panel) for 95 Sr states populated via $d(^{94}Sr, p)$.

333 states was observed. There is also clear evidence for the 334 direct population of the 1666 keV excited state through $_{\rm 335}$ the observation of the 427 keV γ ray. This line is en-336 hanced in the spectrum if a gate on excitation energies $_{337}$ 1 < $E_{\rm x}$ < 2 MeV is placed. However, the statistics were 338 too low for an angular distribution analysis. It is also ₃₃₉ apparent that excited states up to \sim 5 MeV were pop-340 ulated through this reaction and decay via the 352 and 341 681 keV states. However, it was not possible to identify 342 any states above the 1666 keV state due to the limited 343 statistics.

The ground state of ⁹⁵Sr: The ground, 352, and 681 keV states were not clearly resolved in the excitation 349 the excitation energy spectrum for each angular bin. An 355 states, respectively. The shape of the ground state an-

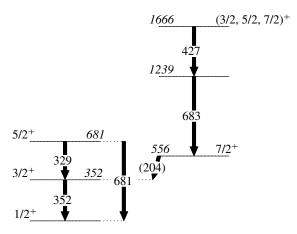


FIG. 4. Level scheme for ⁹⁵Sr states that were populated through $d(^{94}Sr, p)$. The 204 keV γ ray was not observed due to the 21.9(5) ns [3, 49] half-life of the 556 keV state (more details in the text).

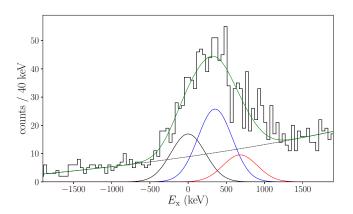


FIG. 5. Excitation energy spectrum extracted from the recoiling proton energies and angles at a center of mass angle $\theta_{\rm cm} = 30^{\circ}$. The continuous green line shows the constrained 3-peak fit of the 0, 352 and 681 keV ⁹⁵Sr states. The dashed line represents the continuous background.

energy spectrum (Fig. 5). Therefore the angular distribu- $_{352}$ arations between them were fixed using the known E_x tions were extracted simultaneously using a constrained 353 resolution (determined with simulations and verified usthree (Gaussian) peak-plus-exponential background fit of $_{354}$ ing the the $d(^{95}Sr, p)$ data set [35]) and the energies of the 350 example fit is shown in Fig. 5. The peak widths and sep- 356 gular distribution (Fig. 6 (a)) is in good agreement with

 $_{357}$ the $\Delta\ell=0$ reaction model calculations, with a spectro- $_{389}$ ment for the 352 keV state from this work with previ-₃₅₈ scopic factor of 0.41(9) for the DWBA and 0.34(7) for the ₃₉₀ ous measurements. The 204 keV γ -ray transition from 359 ADWA, respectively. Systematic uncertainties include 391 the 556 keV to the 352 keV state was previously deter-₃₆₁ uncertainties arising from the optical model parameters ₃₉₃ tron spectroscopy [3]. Additionally no decay directly to 362 used. Our results are thus consistent with the known 394 the ground state has been observed in this or previous [3] $J^{\pi} = 1/2^{+}$ assignment for this state [50].

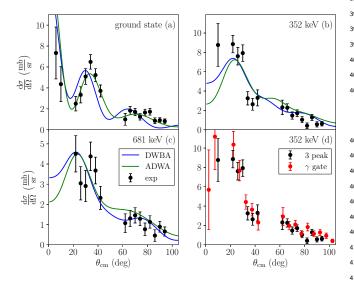


FIG. 6. Panels (a-c): Comparison of the reaction model calculations to the angular distributions for the 0, 352 and 681 keV states in ⁹⁵Sr. The experimental data has been obtained from the constrained 3-peak fit (Fig. 5). The solid lines are the best-fitting reaction model calculations using the DWBA (blue) and ADWA (green) methods. Panel (d): comparison of the two methods to extract the angular distribution for the 352 keV state (see text).

The 352 keV state: Two independent experimental an-366 367 gular distributions were produced for the 352 keV state; 368 one was extracted using the three peak fit (see Fig. 5 (b)) 422 slightly lower spectroscopic factor of 0.45(7).

₃₈₈ parity can be constrained by combining the $3/2^+$ assign- ₄₄₂ for $\Delta \ell = 4$ transfer to the $0g_{7/2}$ orbital.

the experimental sources discussed above and theoretical 392 mined to have pure E2 character using conversion elec-395 work. This constrains the spin and parity of the 556 keV state to be $J^{\pi} = 7/2^+$. The $d(^{94}Sr, p)$ transfer reaction is not expected to populate $7/2^+$ states strongly as the large angular momentum transfer $\Delta \ell = 4$ suppresses the cross section. While no cross section or angular distribution could be extracted from the present data set, the spectrum in Fig. 5 shows that the direct population of 402 this state must be small.

> The 681 keV state: Three independent experimen-404 tal angular distributions were produced for the 681 keV 405 state. In addition to the three peak fit result (shown 406 in Fig. 6), angular distributions (not shown) were also 407 produced for this state by gating on the 329 keV and 408 681 keV transitions as well as the excitation energy. The shape of all three extracted angular distributions are in good agreement with each other and with the $\Delta \ell = 2$ 411 DWBA calculation, constraining the spin and parity of 412 this state to be $J^{\pi} = 3/2^+$ or $5/2^+$. The absence of any 413 M1 component in the 681 keV ground state transition [3] allows us to assign $J^{\pi} = 5/2^{+}$ to the 681 keV state. The 415 spectroscopic factors for population of the $1d_{5/2}$ orbital 416 that were extracted (with the DWBA calculations) using 417 the three methods are 0.20(5), 0.14(5) and 0.14(7), re-418 spectively. The weighted average of these spectroscopic 419 factors is presented in Table III. The ADWA analysis 420 resulted in a weighted average spectroscopic factor of $421 \ 0.14(3)$.

The 1666 keV state: The observation of a 427 keV and a second was extracted by gating on the 352 keV γ - 423 peak in Fig. 3, coincident with excitation energies in the ray transition and the excitation energy (Fig. 6 (d)). The $_{424}$ range of $1 < E_{\rm x} < 2$ MeV, establishes that the 1666 keV shape of both angular distributions are in clear agreement $_{425}$ state was populated in the $d(^{94}Sr, p)$ reaction. This state with the $\Delta \ell = 2$ calculation, constraining the spin and 426 was observed in ²⁵²Cf spontaneous fission decay [51], a parity of this state to be $J^{\pi}=3/2^+$ or $5/2^+$. Combin-₄₂₇ process which preferentially populates high spin states. ng the $\Delta \ell = 2$ angular distribution with the previously 428 In that work a tentative spin and parity of $11/2^+$ was asestablished M1 character of the 352 keV γ -ray transition $_{429}$ signed based on the large branching ratio to the 1239 keV to the $^{95}\mathrm{Sr}$ ground state [3] allows a firm spin and parity $_{430}$ (tentative $9/2^+$) state. However, the population of the assignment of $3/2^+$ for this state. The spectroscopic fac- $_{431}$ state in transfer makes this assignment unlikely. The adtors for adding a neutron to the $1d_{3/2}$ orbital are 0.50(10) dition of a single neutron to the 94 Sr ground state via the and 0.55(13), using the two methods respectively, using 433 $d(^{94}Sr, p)$ reaction can directly populate ^{95}Sr states with the DWBA reaction theory. The weighted average of the 434 spins and parities of 1/2+, 3/2+, 5/2+, and 7/2+. The two spectroscopic factors is presented in Table III. As $_{435}$ cross section for $11/2^-$ states with $\Delta \ell = 5$ is very low and for the ground state the ADWA calculation results in a 436 is not further considered in this work. We therefore pro-437 pose a spin and parity of $(3/2, 5/2, 7/2)^+$ for the 1666 keV The 556 keV state: Although direct population of the 438 state. The angular distribution for this state could not be long-lived 556 keV state $(T_{1/2} = 21.9(5) \text{ ns})$ in this ex- 439 extracted, comparison of the integrated cross section with periment could not be confirmed owing to the low γ -ray 440 the DWBA and ADWA calculations suggests a spectro-₃₈₇ detection efficiency due to its long lifetime, its spin and ₄₄₁ scopic factor of $C^2S < 0.05$ for $\Delta \ell = 0, 2$ or $C^2S \approx 0.12$

B. Results for the $d(^{95}Sr, p)$ reaction

The γ rays and excitation energy of states in 96 Sr that were populated via the $d(^{95}Sr, p)$ reaction are shown in ⁴⁴⁶ Fig. 7. The very strong 815 keV γ -ray line visible over ⁴⁷⁵ tract an angular distribution by gating on the $0_3^+ \to 2_1^+$

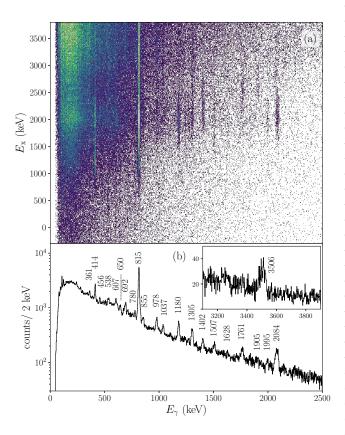


FIG. 7. Excitation energy versus γ -ray energy matrix (upper) and projected γ -ray spectrum (lower) for $^{96}\mathrm{Sr}$ states populated via the $d({}^{95}\mathrm{Sr},p)$ reaction.

 $_{450}$ excited states decay to the 815 keV 2_1^+ state. An an-451 gular distribution analysis was carried out for a total of 452 10 states in ⁹⁶Sr, up to and including a newly observed 512 and so no excitation energy correction was applied. 453 state at 3506(5) keV. Substantial population of states 513 458 states that were identified in this experiment.

 $_{460}$ states were populated in the $d(^{95}\mathrm{Sr},p)$ experiment. The $_{519}$ was used so that all contributions from the 815 keV state 461 main results were already presented in ref. [35], here we 520 were included. The indirect feeding from the 1229 keV 462 just summarize the results for the 0+ states. The ground 521 state was subtracted based on the yield of the 414 keV 463 state angular distribution was extracted by fitting the 522 transition, corrected for the TIGRESS efficiency. The 464 background of the excitation energy spectrum with a con- 523 815 keV transition could not be resolved from the close-465 strained exponential function ($\chi^2 \sim 1$) and taking the 524 lying 813 keV transition originating from the 1628 keV 466 excess counts in the range $-0.5 < E_{\rm x} < 0.5$ MeV. The 525 state. The known branching ratio of the ground state 467 1229 keV 0⁺₂ state angular distribution was produced by 526 decay allowed for the determination of the relative popugating on the $0_2^+ \rightarrow 2_1^+$ 414 keV γ ray. Both angular 527 lation of the 815 and 1628 keV states. The spectroscopic

470 the calculated $\Delta \ell = 0$ DWBA distributions. The spec-471 troscopic factors for the 0 and 1229 keV 0⁺ states were determined to be 0.19(3) and 0.22(3), respectively.

For the 1465 keV 0_3^+ state, it was not possible to ex- $_{476}$ 650 keV γ ray owing to its long half-life of 6.7(10) ns. The γ -ray detection efficiency of TIGRESS was simulated using GEANT4 [52] for both prompt and isomeric decays 479 from a fast-moving ($\beta = 0.1$) ⁹⁶Sr ejectile. The simu-480 lations also take into account attenuation of the γ rays 481 in the chamber and beam-line materials. The long half-482 life of the 1465 keV state results in a large decrease in γ -ray detection efficiency and poor Doppler reconstruction as it was not possible to determine the decay po-485 sition of ⁹⁶Sr. The shape of the Doppler-reconstructed 486 photo-peak was found to depend strongly on the posi-487 tion of the TIGRESS detectors, with clovers positioned at $\theta_{\rm lab} > 120^{\circ}$ being the least affected. A γ -ray analysis was used to determine the relative population strengths $_{490}$ of the two excited 0^+ states in $^{96}\mathrm{Sr}$ by comparing counts in the 414 keV $0_2^+ \rightarrow 2_1^+$ and 650 keV $0_3^+ \rightarrow 2_1^+$ peaks un-492 der identical gate conditions. A 1 MeV excitation energy window was used so that both the 1229 and 1465 keV $^{96}\mathrm{Sr}$ states could be fully included within the energy win-495 dow, given the resolution of SHARC. This analysis was 496 carried out using only the most downstream TIGRESS ⁴⁹⁷ detectors positioned at $\theta_{\rm lab} > 120^{\circ}$. The ratio of counts 498 in the peaks (after correcting for the relative TIGRESS 499 efficiency) was determined to be 0.22(4). This ratio was 500 compared to the simulation results, which also take into 501 account the indirect feeding of the 1229 keV state from the 1465 keV state via the $0_3^+ \rightarrow 0_2^+$ E0 transition and 503 the branching ratio of the 650 keV transition. The experimentally measured relative population strengths are consistent with a scenario where the relative population $_{506}$ of the 1465 to the 1229 keV state was 1.50(52). The spec-507 troscopic factor for the 1465 keV state given in Table III 508 is this relative population strength ratio multiplied by 449 the whole excitation energy range indicates that many 509 the 1229 keV state's spectroscopic factor as determined 510 above. The DWBA calculations for both of these states $_{511}$ predict the same integrated cross section within $\sim 3\%$,

The 815 keV state: It was not possible to extract an 454 above this energy was observed as well, although it was 514 angular distribution for this state owing to the weak di- $_{455}$ not possible to identify individual states based on the $_{515}$ rect population, strong feeding from the 1229 keV state, $_{456}$ measured γ rays. Fig. 8 shows the $^{96}{\rm Sr}$ level scheme for $_{516}$ and the $E_{\rm x}$ resolution. Instead, a γ -ray analysis was used 517 to estimate the population strength. An energy gate of The 0^+ states: The known 0, 1229 and 1465 keV 0^+ 518 $0.4 < E_{\rm x} < 1.2$ MeV in the upstream sections of SHARC 469 distributions (Fig. 9) are in very good agreement with 528 factor for the transfer to the 815 keV state listed in Ta-

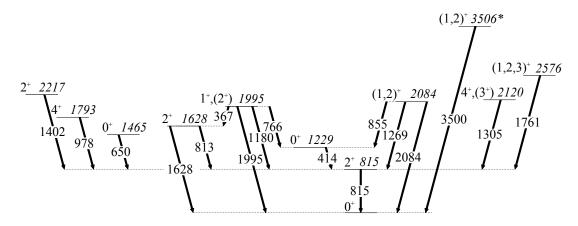


FIG. 8. Level scheme of states in 96 Sr that were populated in the $d(^{95}$ Sr, p) reaction. The newly observed level at 3506 keV is indicated by a star.

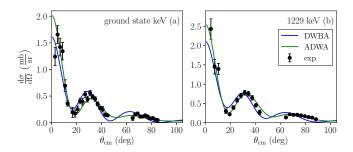


FIG. 9. Angular distributions for $\Delta \ell = 0$ states in ⁹⁶Sr. The experimental data is presented alongside the fitted DWBA (blue) and ADWA (green) calculations, respectively.

529 ble III was then obtained using this ratio and the result for the 1628 keV state, see below, after correcting for the Q-value dependence of the calculated DWBA cross section for transfer to $1d_{3/2}$ neutron orbital.

The 1628 keV state: The 1628 keV state decays most $_{534}$ strongly to the 2^+_1 state at 815 keV by the emission of a $_{\rm 535}$ 813 keV γ ray. An angular distribution was thus ex-536 tracted by double gating on both coincident 813 keV $_{537}$ and 815 keV γ rays. The resulting angular distribution, 538 shown in Fig. 10 (a), is in very good agreement with the $\Delta \ell = 2$ DWBA calculation. This, therefore, constrains 540 the spin and parity to be 1^+ , 2^+ , or 3^+ . A suggested 542 spin and parity of 2⁺ was assigned to this state through 543 β -decay studies of 96 Rb [28] using γ - γ angular correla-544 tions between the 813 keV and 815 keV transitions, al-545 though 1⁺ could not be completely ruled out given the 555 for the 1628 keV state. The spectroscopic factor listed in $_{546}$ available statistics. Although weak, the branching ratios $_{556}$ Table III assumes transfer to the neutron $1d_{3/2}$ orbital, of this state to the $0^+_{1,2}$ states [28] make it highly unlikely 557 as the $1d_{5/2}$ orbital is considered to be fully occupied at 548 that this state has spin and parity 3^+ . If this state were 558 N=56. $_{549}$ 1⁺, the decay to the $0_{1,2}^+$ states would be of pure M1 $_{559}$ $_{550}$ character. The single-particle Weisskopf estimates for $_{560}$ with most of the observed γ -ray strength coming from 551 the strength of these M1 transitions indicate that they 561 indirect feeding from higher levels. Fig. 11 (a) shows the 552 would be similar in strength to the 813 keV transition, 562 angular distribution for the 1793 keV state, which was but they are measured to be only 12.2 and 5.3%, respec- 563 produced by gating on the $4_1^+ \rightarrow 2_1^+$ 978 keV γ ray trans

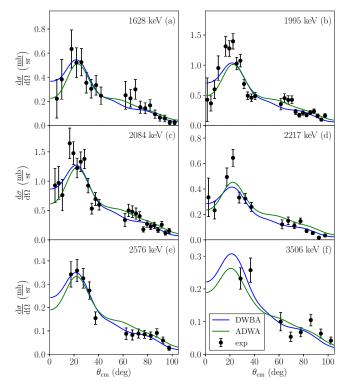


FIG. 10. Angular distributions for $\Delta \ell = 2$ states in 96 Sr. The experimental data is presented alongside the fitted DWBA (blue) and ADWA (green) calculations, respectively.

The 1793 keV state: This state was weakly populated, 554 tively. These observations favor a $J^{\pi}=2^+$ assignment 564 sition. The measured angular distribution, which was best reproduced by a $\Delta \ell = 4$ DWBA calculation, is confor the 2113 keV level and 75(20)% for the 2120 keV sistent with the established spin of 4^+ [28].

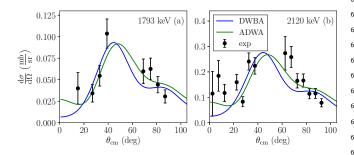


FIG. 11. Angular distributions for $\Delta \ell = 4$ states in 96 Sr. The experimental data is presented alongside the fitted DWBA (blue) and ADWA (green) calculations, respectively. Potential contamination of the 2120 keV state angular distribution by the neighboring 2113 keV state has been neglected (see text).

568

575 duced by gating on the 1180 keV γ ray. It shows clear 633 ble III. 576 $\Delta \ell = 2$ character which constrains the spin and parity 634 factor for the $J^{\pi} = 2^{+}$ assignment.

as a strong 2084 keV γ -ray line in coincidence with ex- 645 or 2^+ . 588 citation energies in the range $1.6 < E_{\rm x} < 2.4$ MeV. The angular distribution obtained by gating on this transition (Fig. 10 (c)) shows clear a $\Delta \ell = 2$ character constraining 646 the spin and parity of this state to $1^+, 2^+$ or 3^+ . Using similar arguments as for the 1995 keV level, the decay $_{647}$ state to have spin and parity 1^+ or 2^+ .

608 state. The angular distribution gated on both the 1299 and 1305 keV γ -ray lines shown in Fig. 11 (b) is thus 610 dominated by the 2120 keV state. It is in best agreement with $\Delta \ell = 4$ which is in accord with the tentative $_{612}$ assignment J=4 from spontaneous fission studies of ₆₁₃ ²⁴⁸Cm [31]. The spectroscopic factor for transfer to the $_{614}$ $0g_{7/2}$ orbital given in Table III is an upper limit for the 615 2120 keV state ignoring the contribution of the 2113 keV 616 level to the angular distribution.

The 2217 keV state: The angular distribution shown 618 in Fig. 10 (d) was produced by gating on the 1402 keV $_{619}$ γ -ray transition depopulating this state and is well described by a $\Delta \ell = 2$ calculation. Therefore $J^{\pi} = 2^{+}$ is $_{621}$ assigned to this state confirming the previous provisional ₆₂₂ J=2 assignment based on γ - γ angular correlation mea-623 surements [28].

The 2576 keV state: The angular distribution for 625 this level (Fig. 10 (e)) was produced by gating on the $_{626}$ 1761 keV γ -ray transition. It has previously been ob-The 1995 keV state: This state was strongly popu- 627 served only in β -decay of 96 Rb [3] and its strength suglated directly through the $d(^{95}\mathrm{Sr},p)$ transfer reaction, 628 gests a first-forbidden decay. This is in agreement with with negligible indirect feeding. It can be clearly seen 629 the $\Delta\ell=2$ angular distribution deduced here, which $_{572}$ in Fig. 7 as a strong 1180 keV γ ray in coincidence with $_{630}$ constrains the spin and parity to be 1^+ , 2^+ or 3^+ . Specexcitation energies in the range $1.6 < E_{\rm x} < 2.4$ MeV. 631 troscopic factors assuming transfer to the $1d_{3/2}$ $(0g_{7/2})$ The angular distribution, shown in Fig. 10 (b) was pro- 632 neutron orbital for $J^{\pi}=1^+,2^+$ (3+) are listed in Ta-

The 3506 keV state: The 3506(6) keV transition is 577 to be 1⁺, 2⁺, or 3⁺. A spin and parity of 3⁺ is un- 635 newly observed in this work (inset of Fig. 7). The ex- $_{578}$ likely since decay to the ground and 0_2^+ states has been $_{636}$ citation energy spectrum gated on this transition shows observed. A $J^{\pi}=1^+$ assignment was suggested based 637 that this is a direct ground state decay. The angular on β -decay studies of $^{96}{\rm Rb}$ [28] using γ - γ angular corre- 638 distribution obtained by gating on this γ ray is shown in lations between the 1180 keV and 815 keV γ rays. For 639 Fig. 10 (f). The measured angular distribution is in good completeness, Table III also lists the $1d_{3/2}$ spectroscopic 640 agreement with the $\Delta \ell = 2$ DWBA calculation. No other 641 new or known transitions were observed when gating on The 2084 keV state: This state was also strongly pop- 642 this excitation energy range, indicating that the branchulated with negligible feeding from higher lying states. 643 ing ratio for the 3506 keV γ ray to the ground state is The direct ground state decay can be clearly seen in Fig. 7 644 100(10)%. This constrains the spin and parity to be 1⁺

The $d(^{96}Sr, p)$ reaction

The γ rays and excitation energy of states in 97 Sr that branches to the $0_{1,2}^+$ states effectively rule out 3^+ . The ₆₄₈ were populated via the $d(^{96}\mathrm{Sr},p)$ reaction are shown in $\log ft$ value of the β -decay of the $^{96}\mathrm{Rb}\ 2^{(-)}$ ground state 680 Fig. 12. The 167 and 355 keV γ rays in the energy range to the 2084 keV state suggests a first forbidden transition $_{651}$ $-0.5 < E_{\rm x} < 1$ MeV indicate that both the known 167 which, together with the present result, constrains this 652 and 522 keV excited states were populated in this ex-₆₅₃ periment. Fig. 13 shows the ⁹⁷Sr level scheme for states The 2120 keV state: The main (91 %) decay branch 658 that were identified in this work. No other excited states of this state is by a 1305 keV transition to the 2⁺ state. 656 could be unambiguously identified, owing to the limited However, it cannot be resolved from the 1299 keV transi- 657 statistics. Given the small difference in energy between tion arising from the 2113 keV state given the TIGRESS 658 the ground state and 167 keV first excited state, and energy resolution after Doppler-correction. The 2113 keV $_{659}$ the $E_{\rm x}$ energy resolution, it was not possible to obtain state also decays by 485 keV (branching ratio 22 %) and 660 the cross sections and angular distributions based on the $_{604}$ 607 keV (35%) γ rays which have been observed in the $_{661}$ excitation energy spectrum alone. The strength of the 605 excitation energy range $1.8 < E_x < 2.6$ MeV. This indi- 662 ground state was thus derived by means of a constrained 606 cates that the relative population strengths are 25(20)% 663 three-peak fit for the 0, 167 and 522 keV states as dis-

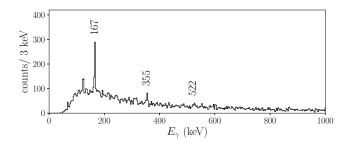


FIG. 12. Projected γ -ray spectrum for 97 Sr states populated via the $d(^{96}Sr, p)$ reaction. A cut on excitation energies below 1 MeV has been applied.

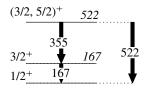


FIG. 13. Level scheme for ⁹⁷Sr states that were populated through $d(^{96}Sr, p)$.

cussed above for ⁹⁵Sr. Examples are shown in Fig. 14. 664 666

The ground state: The ground state was very weakly 667 populated through the $d(^{96}Sr, p)$ reaction and the angular distribution shown in Fig. 15 (a) did not exhibit a clear shape as no data could be obtained for the smallest scattering angles ($\theta_{\rm cm} < 20^{\circ}$). In this region the yield is expected to be very small and due to the small Q-value the background is high at low excitation energy. However, the ground state is known to be $J^{\pi} = 1/2^{+}$ [2] and the angular distribution obtained is in accord with $700 J^{\pi}$ of this state to be $3/2^{+}$ or $5/2^{+}$, in agreement with the $_{676}$ $\Delta \ell = 0$. The spectroscopic factor given in Table III has $_{701}$ M1 multipolarities of the decay to the 167 keV state and ₆₇₇ been extracted from the data shown in Fig. 15 (a) as well $_{702}$ also from the 687 keV $5/2^+$ state [49]. The population of ₆₇₈ as a two-component fit of the summed angular distribu- $_{703}$ this state by adding a neutron to the $1d_{3/2}$ orbital is most 679 tions of the ground and 167 keV states.

The 167 keV state: Two independent angular distributions were produced for the 167 keV state; one was extracted using the three peak fit (Fig. 15 (b)) and a second was derived by gating on the 167 keV γ ray and 522 keV state. The shape of both angular distributions 710 using the DWBA calculations. are in good agreement with the $\Delta \ell = 2$ reaction model calculations, in agreement with the established spin and ₆₈₉ parity of $3/2^+$ [49]. The spectroscopic factors that were ₇₁₂ extracted for each of the methods are 0.25(7) and 0.24(8), 691 respectively, assuming the addition of a neutron to the 713 693 scopic factors is given in Table III.

696 allow for a γ -gated angular distribution for the 522 keV 718 the present calculations are not well adapted to describe ₆₉₇ state, and so the spectroscopic factor for this state was ₇₁₉ the deformed structures in ⁹⁶Sr and ⁹⁷Sr, the structure of determined by using the three-peak fit. The $\Delta \ell = 2$ 720 $^{95}{\rm Sr}$ before the shape transition should be well described, 699 angular distribution shown in Fig. 15 (c) constrains the 721 even in rather limited model spaces as will be discussed.

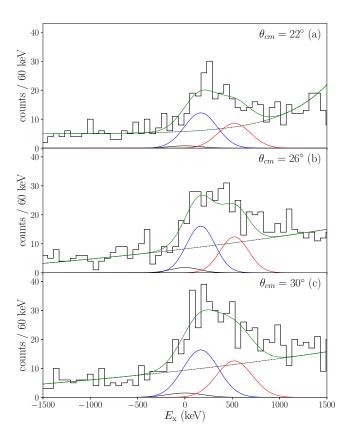


FIG. 14. Excitation energy spectrum extracted from the recoiling proton energies and angles at a center of mass angles $\theta_{\rm cm} = 22, 26, \text{ and } 30^{\circ}.$ The continuous green line shows the constrained 3-peak fit of the 0, 167 and 522 keV states. The dashed line represents the continuous background.

₇₀₄ likely as the $1d_{5/2}$ orbital is expected to be fully occupied ₇₀₅ at N = 59 and the spectroscopic factor should be even ₇₀₆ lower than in 95 Sr. Consequently, $3/2^+$ is a more likely 707 spin and parity for this state. For completeness, Table III 708 includes the spectroscopic factors for both possibilities the excitation energy limiting the contribution from the 709 0.21(8) and 0.13(5) for $J^{\pi}=3/2^{+}$ and $5/2^{+}$, respectively,

DISCUSSION IV.

The results obtained here can be used to gain insights $1d_{3/2}$ orbital. The weighted average of the two spectro- 714 into the underlying single-particle configurations of states $_{715}$ in $^{95,96,97}\mathrm{Sr}.$ The results are compared in the following to The 522 keV state: The small number of counts in the 716 shell model calculations to investigate the role of proton 355 and 522 keV γ -ray peaks (shown in Fig. 12) did not 717 and neutron configurations in the low-lying states. While

Nucleus	$E_{\rm x} [{\rm keV}]$	$E_{\gamma} [\text{keV}]$	J^{π}	$\Delta \ell$	C^2S (DWBA)	C^2S (ADWA)
$^{95}\mathrm{Sr}$	0	fit	$\frac{1}{2}$ +	0	0.41(9)	0.34(7)
	352	fit, 352	$ \begin{array}{r} \frac{1}{2} + \\ \frac{3}{2} + \\ \frac{7}{2} + \\ \frac{5}{2} + \\ \frac{3}{2} + , \frac{5}{2} + , \frac{7}{2} + \\ \end{array} $	2	$0.53(8)^{\dagger}$	$0.45(7)^{\dagger}$
	556	-	$\frac{1}{2}$ +	-	-	-
	681	fit, 329, 681	$\frac{1}{5}$ +	2	$0.16(3)^{\dagger}$	$0.14(3)^{\dagger}$
	1239	-	$rac{3}{2}^+, rac{5}{2}^+, rac{7}{2}^+$	-	-	-
	1666	-	$rac{3}{2}^+, rac{5}{2}^+, rac{7}{2}^+$	-	-	-
$^{96}\mathrm{Sr}$	0	fit	0+	0	0.19(3)	0.15(3)
	815	-	2^+	-	0.038(12)	0.034(12)
	1229	414	0^+	0	0.22(3)	0.19(3)
	1465	-	0^+	-	0.33(13)	0.29(12)
	1628	813 + 815	2^{+}	2	0.069(25)	0.056(23)
	1793	978	4^+	4	0.066(16)	0.058(17)
	1995	1180	$1^+, (2^+)$	2	0.20(3), (0.12(2))	0.18(3), (0.10(2))
	2084	2084	$1^+, 2^+$	2	0.24(5), 0.15(3)	0.21(4), 0.12(3)
	2120	1305	$4^+, (3^+)$	4	0.19(4), (0.21(4))	0.16(4), (0.21(4))
	2217	1402	2^+	2	0.047(8)	0.034(8)
	2576	1761	${\bf 1}^+, {\bf 2}^+, {\bf 3}^+$	2	0.062(12), 0.037(7),	0.049(9), 0.028(6),
					0.025(5)	0.019(5)
	3506(5)*	3506(5)	$1^+,2^+$	2	0.047(9), 0.027(5)	0.034(8), 0.020(4)
⁹⁷ Sr	0	fit	$\frac{1}{2}^{+}$	0	0.07(5)	0.06(5)
					$0.11(10)^{\ddagger}$	$0.07(7)^{\ddagger}$
	167	fit, 167	$\frac{3}{2}$ +	2	$0.25(5)^{\dagger}$	$0.20(5)^{\dagger}$
			_		$0.21(7)^{\ddagger}$	$0.19(7)^{\ddagger}$
	522	fit	$\frac{3}{2}^+, \frac{5}{2}^+$	2	0.21(8), 0.13(5)	0.17(7), 0.11(4)

 $^{^{\}dagger}C^2S$ presented is the weighted average from multiple determinations

TABLE III. Results for 95,96,97 Sr states that were studied through the $d(^{94,95,96}$ Sr, p) reactions. Spectroscopic factors (C^2S) are given for all allowed J^{π} . J^{π} values in bold are new assignments or refined constraints. The method of angular distribution extraction, if any, for each state is presented under E_{γ} . Assignments and spectroscopic factors in parenthesis are alternative assignments that cannot be definitively ruled out by the present data, but are unlikely given previous experiments.

Shell model calculations for $^{94-97}$ Sr were carried out $_{739}$ orbital and protons could be distributed across the 1psingle-particle energy [22].

Three different truncations of the proton valence space were investigated. In the smallest model space (a) the $_{\rm 736}$ protons were frozen in a $(1p_{3/2})^4$ configuration so that $_{\rm 737}$ the calculated states were built up using only the neu-738 tron configurations. Model space (b) included the $1p_{1/2}$

₇₂₃ using NushellX [53] with the glek interaction [54] and ₇₄₀ orbitals so that the effect of $(1p_{3/2})^{(4-x)}(1p_{1/2})^x$ configseveral different model spaces. The single-particle ener- 741 urations could be investigated. A third model space, (c), gies of the interaction were adjusted so that the energies $_{742}$ was used to investigate the effect of the proton $0q_{9/2}$ orof low-lying states in the vicinity of $N\sim 56$ and $Z\sim 38$ 743 bital on low-lying states. Up to two protons were allowed were in good agreement with experiment [35]. In the $_{744}$ to occupy this orbital, so that configurations such as present calculations the neutron $1d_{5/2}$, $2s_{1/2}$ $1d_{3/2}$ and $_{745}$ $(1p_{3/2})^2(0g_{9/2})^2$ and $(1p_{1/2})^2(0g_{9/2})^2$ were possible. This $0g_{7/2}$ orbitals, outside an inert N=50 core, were in- 746 truncation was necessary due to the available computacluded. The higher-lying $0h_{11/2}$ orbital was not included 747 tional resources. Proton seniority $\nu \neq 0$ configurations 731 as contributions from this orbital to low-lying positive 748 are expected to play a negligible role in the configurations ₇₃₂ parity states are expected to be small owing to the high ₇₄₉ of states that are strongly populated via the d(Sr, p) re-750 actions as single-step neutron transfer cannot break and 751 re-couple proton pairs. Overall, additional proton de-752 grees of freedom resulted in a lowering of the excitation 753 energies, as correlations between complex configurations 754 provide extra binding energy. This effect was evidenced 755 by the increased mixing of the large number of configura-

[‡]determined from the summed angular distribution of ground and 167 keV state

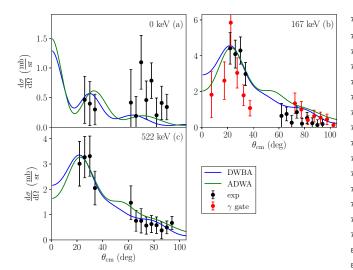


FIG. 15. Fit of the reaction model calculations to the experimental data for the 167 and 522 keV states in ⁹⁷Sr. The solid lines are the best-fitting reaction model calculations using the DWBA (blue) and ADWA (green) methods. The fitting was restricted to the forward angles ($\theta_{\rm cm} < 40^{\circ}$). For the 167 keV state the angular distribution extracted by gating on the 167 keV γ -ray transition and the excitation energy is also shown.

756 tions in the wave functions. The increased proton model 757 space also impacted the predicted spectroscopic factors, 758 as the mixed wave functions, unsurprisingly, tend to have 759 smaller overlaps.

760 **A.**
95
Sr

In a shell model picture, low-lying states in ⁹⁵Sr can 761 be approximated as simple excitations of the unpaired neutron into the different valence orbitals, which define the spins and parities of the low-lying states. The ground state spectroscopic factor (Table IV) is in good agreement with that calculated in the shell model for all three model spaces, although the substantial improvement in (b) indicates that proton pair excitations into the $1p_{1/2}$ orbital play an important role in the ground states of both ⁹⁴Sr and ⁹⁵Sr. The same is also true for the energy and spectroscopic factor of the $3/2^+$ first excited state: the calculated energy of this level drops substantially with the inclusion of the proton $1p_{1/2}$ orbital. As can be seen, a gradual reduction in spectroscopic strength is predicted for the ground state and 352 keV excited states as the proton degrees of freedom are increased. In each case, there were no other $1/2^+$ or $3/2^+$ states with substantial spectroscopic strength $(C^2S>0.04)$ predicted. On $_{805}$ ble IV) which is dominated by a neutron $(1d_{5/2})^5(2s_{1/2})^2$ suggests that the ground states of both $^{94}\mathrm{Sr}$ and $^{95}\mathrm{Sr}$ configuration in all of the calculations. The population suggests that the ground states of both $^{94}\mathrm{Sr}$ and $^{95}\mathrm{Sr}$ have similar and nearly spherical shapes and in agree-₇₈₄ of such a state in the one-neutron transfer suggests that ₈₁₀ ment with B(E2) [5, 30] and charge radii [2] measure-

785 the $\nu 1d_{5/2}$ orbit is not fully occupied in the ground state 786 of ⁹⁴Sr. The larger model spaces, which increase the 787 neutron particle-hole configurations in the ⁹⁴Sr ground 788 state, show an increase in the spectroscopic factor for 789 the $5/2^+$ state. This also affirms the assignment of $5/2^+$ to the state seen at 681 keV. The spectroscopic factor and ₇₉₁ the excitation energy of the $7/2^+$ state strongly depends on the proton configurations. This demonstrates the effect of the Federman-Pittel mechanism [9, 10] whereby the mutual interaction of the $\pi 0g_{9/2}$ and $\nu 0g_{7/2}$ orbitals drives the deformation in this region. While the spectroscopic factor for this state could not be deduced, the observed yield (Fig. 5) suggests that this state has a small spectroscopic factor, at variance with the shell model calculations.

Figure 16 shows the experimental level energies and DWBA spectroscopic factors for ⁹⁵Sr states that were 802 populated via the $d(^{94}Sr, p)$ reaction compared to the 803 shell model calculations. Overall, the shell model cal-

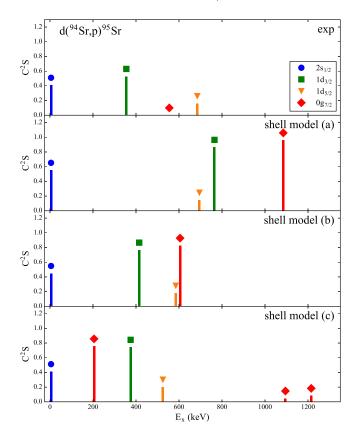


FIG. 16. Comparison of experimental (exp) spectroscopic factors (C^2S) to those from shell model calculations carried out in model spaces (a), (b) and (c) - see text. States are labeled by the neutron single-particle orbital populated in the transfer reaction.

the other hand, each calculation predicted a low-energy 806 culations for proton model space (b) describe these low- $5/2^+$ state with $C^2S > 0.15$ at around ~ 600 keV (Ta-807 lying states very well aside from the $7/2^+$ state. This

		exp.		SM (a)		SM (b)		SM (c)	
Nucleus	J^{π}	$E ext{ (keV)}$	C^2S	$E ext{ (keV)}$	C^2S	$E ext{ (keV)}$	C^2S	E (keV)	C^2S
⁹⁵ Sr	$\frac{1}{2}^{+}$	0	0.41(9)	0	0.553	0	0.449	0	0.413
	$\frac{3}{2}^{+}$	352	0.53(8)	766	0.865	412	0.767	375	0.744
	$\frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{2}$	681	0.16(3)	691	0.146	585	0.180	523	0.201
	$\frac{7}{2}$ +	556		1086	0.959	602	0.828	205	0.757
$^{97}\mathrm{Sr}$	$\frac{1}{2}^{+}$	0	0.10(5)	1631	0.013	1279	0.024	417	0.002
	$\frac{\frac{3}{2}}{\frac{7}{2}}$ +	167	0.25(5)	0	0.881	0	0.804	117	0.713
	$\frac{7}{2}$ +	308		270	0.979	149	0.931	0	0.819
	$\frac{5}{2}$ +	522	0.13(5)	1714	0.025	1336	0.042	57	0.000

TABLE IV. Comparison of $d^{(94,96}Sr, p)$ spectroscopic factors to shell model calculations for low-lying states. The labels SM (a), (b) and (c) denote the three proton model spaces that were investigated (see text).

811 ments. It should be noted that a recent Monte-Carlo 812 shell model calculation [27] predicts the onset of defor-813 mation in the Sr nuclei too early. This is evident from the 814 calculated spectra of the even-even Sr nuclei [34] as well as the level scheme of ⁹⁵Sr with 13 states below 1 MeV, 816 some of them strongly deformed [55].

$$\mathbf{B}.$$
 $^{96}\mathbf{Sr}$

817

Table V compares the shell model results within each proton model space for the lowest states. In the $d^{95}Sr, p^{96}Sr$ reaction each state with J > 0 can be pop-822 ulated by more than one value for the angular momentum $_{823}$ transfer. The coupling of the $1/2^+$ ground state of $^{95}\mathrm{Sr}$ $_{824}$ to a valence neutron in $1d_{5/2}\ (J=2,3),\,2s_{1/2}\ (J=0,1),$ 825 $1d_{3/2}$ (J=1,2), and $0g_{7/2}$ (J=3,4) leads to various 826 final states. The shell model calculations suggest that $_{227}$ $1d_{5/2}$ dominates the J=2,3 states and the contribu s_{28} tion of $2s_{1/2}$ to the 1⁺ states is negligible. Indeed the 829 experimental angular distributions for the 1⁺ candidates are welled accounted for by $\Delta \ell = 2$ transfer as shown in 831 Fig. 10. The results of the calculations are compared to the experimental data in Fig. 17.

According to the calculations, the ground state 835 of $^{96}\mathrm{Sr}$ is dominated (> 60%) by a neutron $(1d_{5/2})^6(2s_{1/2})^2$ configuration with substantial ($\sim 15\%$) 837 $(1d_{5/2})^4(2s_{1/2})^2(1d_{3/2})^2$ contributions in all of the model spaces. The transfer from the $1/2^+$ ground state of $^{95}\mathrm{Sr}$ 839 has, therefore, a large spectroscopic factor approaching s40 that of the independent particle model ($C^2S=2$). The 841 result depends only weakly on the proton model space, 842 reflecting the result obtained for ⁹⁵Sr where the spectroscopic factor of the $1/2^+$ ground state (and the $3/2^+$ 844 first excited state) only weakly depend on the avail-845 able proton space. The predicted spectroscopic factor 846 $(C^2S_{\rm SM} \sim 1.5)$ was found to be much larger than the experimental result ($C^2S_{\rm exp}=0.19(3)$), suggesting that the ground state of $^{96}{\rm Sr}$ can not be well-described within $_{850}$ symmetry a Coulomb excitation experiment determining

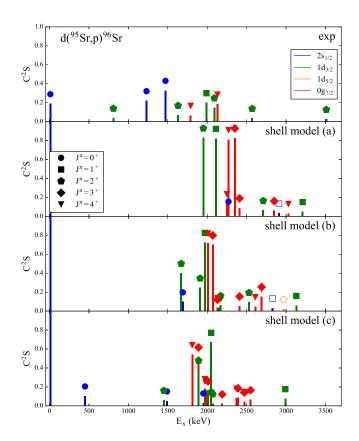


FIG. 17. Comparison of experimental (exp) spectroscopic factors (C^2S) for $d(^{94}Sr, p)^{95}Sr$ to shell model calculations that were carried out in model spaces (a), (b) and (c) – see text. States are labeled by their spin and parity as well as the orbital populated in the transfer reaction. Open symbols label the 1⁺ states populated by transfer to the $2s_{1/2}$ orbital, as well as transfer to the $1d_{5/2}$ orbital for $J^{\pi}=2,3^{+}$. Only states with $C^2S > 0.01$ are shown. For experiment $J^{\pi} = 2^+$ has been assumed for the 2084, 2576, and 3506 keV.

849 the context of the spherical shell model. Assuming axial 851 the quadrupole moment of the 2_1^+ state suggests a weakly

	SM (a)			SM (b)		SM (c)		
J^{π}	E (keV)	C^2S	J^{π}	E (keV)	C^2S	J^{π}	E (keV)	C^2S
0_{1}^{+}	0	1.742	0_{1}^{+}	0	1.575	0_{1}^{+}	0	1.454
0_{2}^{+}	2271	0.056	0_{2}^{+}	1691	0.098	0_{2}^{+}	444	0.105
0_{3}^{+}	3066	0.001	0_{3}^{+}	2034	0.006	0_{3}^{+}	1483	0.052
1_{1}^{+}	2116	0.823	1_{1}^{+}	1961	0.725	1_{1}^{+}	2048	0.671
2_{1}^{+}	1959	0.829	2_{1}^{+}	1662	0.402	2_{1}^{+}	705	0.002
2_{2}^{+}	2307	0.001	2_{2}^{+}	1905	0.246	2_{2}^{+}	1442	0.061
2_{3}^{+}	2706	0.064	2_{3}^{+}	2155	0.035	2_{3}^{+}	1804	0.013
2_{4}^{+}	2884	0.014	2_{4}^{+}	2160	0.061	2_{4}^{+}	1883	0.378
3_{1}^{+}	2345	0.828	3_{1}^{+}	2078	0.699	3_{1}^{+}	1885	0.517
4_{1}^{+}	2250	0.134	4_{1}^{+}	2011	0.038	4_{1}^{+}	1326	0.002
-4_{2}^{+}	2278	0.811	4_{2}^{+}	2120	0.720	4_{2}^{+}	1818	0.541

TABLE V. Comparison of $d(^{95}Sr, p)^{96}Sr$ spectroscopic factors and excitation energies from the shell model calculations. The labels SM (a), (b) and (c) denote the three proton model spaces that were investigated (see text).

852 deformed ($\beta \sim 0.1$) ground state [4, 33].

On the other hand, the experimental spectroscopic factors for the excited 0^+ states are substantially larger than for the ground state. The 1229 and 1465 keV states in ⁹⁶Sr are known to arise from the mixing between a 857 strongly deformed and a nearly spherical configuration, 858 as evidenced by the large $\rho^2(E0)$ transition strength be-859 tween them [28]. The strongly deformed states should 860 not be populated directly in one-neutron transfer onto the spherical ⁹⁵Sr ground state. Therefore, the spec-862 troscopic factors of these states reflects their underlying 863 spherical component which is populated strongly by the (d, p) reaction. This suggests the existence of three different shapes in ⁹⁶Sr, with a weakly deformed, likely oblate, 866 ground state and strongly mixed spherical and well deformed (prolate with $\beta = 0.31(3)$) configurations in the 868 excited 0⁺ states. This is discussed in more detail in Ref. [35].

888 this level. In agreement with the experimental results, the calculations in model space (c) predict small spectroscopic factors for the other 2^+ states. The first 2^+ state in $^{90-96}\mathrm{Sr}$ was previously interpreted as a proton spin-flip excitation from the $1p_{3/2}$ to the $1p_{1/2}$ orbital as 893 no indications of the neutron sub-shell closure are visible at N=56. The constant excitation energy can then explained by the quenching of the proton $1p_{3/2}-1p_{1/2}$ spin-896 orbit splitting as the neutron $1d_{5/2}$ orbital is filled [56]. 897 Such configurations would not be populated here using 898 the (d, p) reaction. The small experimental spectroscopic 899 factor for the 2⁺ state is consistent with a proton exci-900 tation or with a non-spherical configuration that has a 901 small overlap with the ⁹⁵Sr ground state.

The main contributions to the 903 tion of the low-lying 4⁺ states are the neutron $_{904}$ $(1d_{5/2})^5(2s_{1/2})^2(1d_{3/2})^T$ and $(1d_{5/2})^6(2s_{1/2})^1(0g_{7/2})^1$ $_{905}$ configurations. The latter configuration can be popu-Given that the ground state of $^{96}\mathrm{Sr}$ was not well 906 lated directly via one-neutron transfer ($\Delta\ell=4$), which $_{871}$ reproduced in any of the calculations, it is expected $_{907}$ results in an enhancement of the spectroscopic factor that there will also be substantial discrepancies with 908 as seen in Table V. There is no strong evidence to the low energy states of 96 Sr. The wave function for 909 suggest that the structure of the 1793 keV 4_1^+ 96 Sr state 874 the 2_1^+ state was predicted to be dominated by the 910 is well-described within any of the present calculations. neutron $(1d_{5/2})^6(2s_{1/2})^1(1d_{3/2})^1$ configurations in shell $_{911}$ The 4^+ state at 2120 keV has a larger spectroscopic model calculation (a) (73%) and (b) (27%), which has $_{912}$ factor, and may be associated with the calculated 4_1^+ 877 a large overlap with the $^{95}\mathrm{Sr}$ ground state. Within the $_{913}$ state. Additionally, $\Delta\ell=4$ strength has been observed model space of calculation (c), many additional contri- $_{914}$ around $E=3200~{
m keV},~{
m but}$ could not be assigned butions were present in the lowest energy 2⁺ state and ₉₁₅ to a particular state [42]. A low-lying 3⁺ state was 880 the spectroscopic factor (Table V) is very small. The 916 also predicted in each of the model spaces. The same drop in energy of the 2^+ state to 705 keV in model (c) $_{917}$ $(1d_{5/2})^6(2s_{1/2})^1(0g_{7/2})^1$ configuration was found to be reflects the lowering of the $7/2^+$ state in 95 Sr as excita- 918 the primary component of this state, contributing 67%, tions to the proton $0g_{9/2}$ orbital become possible. The $_{919}$ 47% and 33% to the total wave function in model spaces 884 large spectroscopic factor predicted for the 2⁺₄ state re- 920 (a), (b), and (c), respectively. Experimentally, there 885 flects its wave function composition, which in this case 921 is no candidate for a 3⁺ state with large spectroscopic 886 is similar to the 2_1^+ state of the other calculations. The 922 factor, although the 4^+ assignment of the 2120 keV state 887 experimental 2084 keV state might be associated with 923 is tentative, and could be a 3+ state. Another state of

924 interest is the first 1⁺ state, which appears at around 979 this state does not necessarily have the same structure as 925 2 MeV in all of the calculations. This state originates 980 the configuration of the even-even projectile affects the $_{926}$ from the neutron $(1d_{5/2})^6(2s_{1/2})^1(1d_{3/2})^1$ configuration, $_{981}$ spectroscopic factor as well. Relatively strong population which can be populated directly via $\Delta \ell = 2$ transfer. 982 of a low-lying $5/2^+$ state via the $d(^{96}\mathrm{Sr},p)$ reaction indi-929 up 78%, 68% and 61% of the total wave function in 984 $1d_{5/2}$ orbital in the 96 Sr ground state and this level could $_{930}$ model spaces (a), (b), and (c), respectively. The 1⁺ state $_{985}$ be regarded as the N=59 analogue of the 681 keV $5/2^+$ at 1995 keV is a likely candidate for this configuration, 986 95 Sr state. 932 as it was strongly populated in the $d(^{95}Sr, p)Sr$ reaction.

To summarize, the spectroscopic strength in ⁹⁶Sr is 934 smaller and more fragmented than in the shell model 987 calculations, in particular for the 0^+ and 2^+ states. The absolute spectroscopic factors are not reproduced, but the rather large spectroscopic factors for low-lying 1⁺ and 938 4⁺ states are overall in line with the calculations. The 939 discrepancy for the 0⁺ states, with the observation of 940 the majority of the spectroscopic strength in the excited 941 0⁺ states, suggests that the ground state of ⁹⁶Sr is not 942 spherical, but rather weakly (oblate) deformed [35].

943 **C.**
97
Sr

945 shell model calculations in Table IV suggest that the 1000 parity of the 1666 keV state have been made, based on 946 structure of ⁹⁷Sr is more complicated than for ⁹⁵Sr. The 1001 predicted cross sections. Good agreement was observed ground state spin and parity $1/2^+$ [50] is unexpected in 1002 between experiment and shell model calculations, which $_{948}$ the framework of the spherical shell model, where the $_{1003}$ suggests that low-lying states in $^{95}\mathrm{Sr}$ arise from relatively $2s_{1/2}$ orbital should be fully occupied at N=59. Iso- 1004 simple neutron configurations. ₉₅₀ tope shift measurements across the Sr chain indicate that ₁₀₀₅ In ⁹⁶Sr, all angular distribution analyses that were the ground state of ⁹⁷Sr is either spherical or weakly de- 1006 carried out confirm and refine previous spin and parformed [2]. The magnetic moment of the ⁹⁷Sr ground ₁₀₀₇ ity assignments, and new spin and parity constraints of 953 state is close to the value of 95Sr and much smaller 1008 1+, 2+, 3+ have been made for the 2576 state. A state at g_{54} than the Schmidt value. The close-lying $0g_{7/2}$ and $1d_{3/2}$ g_{500} g_{500} g_{500} has been newly identified, which is a candi-955 $K^{\pi} = 1/2^+$ orbitals could lead to substantial mixing even 1010 date for a 1⁺ or 2⁺ level. It was found that the excited 956 for weakly deformed states, and thus explain these re- 1011 0⁺ states possess a larger overlap with the ground state

₉₅₉ spectroscopic factors for the $d(^{96}Sr, p)$ reaction are listed ₁₀₁₄ shell model calculations, which predict that almost all ₉₆₀ in Table IV. As discussed previously, the striking discrep-₁₀₁₅ of the $\Delta \ell = 0$ strength is concentrated in the 0_1^+ state. ₉₆₁ ancies between the calculated spectroscopic factors for ₁₀₁₆ A weakly deformed structure is suggested for the ⁹⁶Sr $_{962}$ the $d(^{95}\mathrm{Sr},p)$ reaction and our experimental results indi- $_{1017}$ ground state. The results presented here also agree with ⁹⁶³ cate that the shell model will not adequately describe the ¹⁰¹⁸ the proposed proton configuration of the 2⁺₁ state [56] $_{964}$ $d(^{96}\mathrm{Sr},p)$ reaction. A good description of the $^{96}\mathrm{Sr}$ ground $_{1019}$ which is not strongly populated in the present experi-965 state wave function is essential for calculating the over- 1020 ment. 966 lap with states in 97 Sr and the results from the $d(^{95}$ Sr, p) $_{1021}$ In 97 Sr, substantial spectroscopic strength to the 167 967 reaction make it clear that 94Sr and 95Sr ground states 1022 and 522 keV states was observed while the ground state ₉₆₈ are well described by the shell model but the ⁹⁶Sr ground ₁₀₂₃ was very weakly populated. The angular distributions 969 state is not. The interpretation of the spectroscopic fac- 1024 are in agreement with the established spins and parities tors is thus limited here to qualitative remarks.

₉₇₂ the $d(^{96}Sr, p)$ reaction we can conclude that it has a con-₁₀₂₇ ^{96}Sr ground state was not well-described within the cal-973 siderably different wave function than that of the weakly 1028 culations. 974 deformed ⁹⁶Sr ground state, although this does not neces- 1029 The results discussed here provide valuable informa-975 sarily imply that it is strongly deformed. Clearly, further 1030 tion concerning the single-particle composition of states ₉₇₆ experimental measurements must be made to elucidate ₁₉₃₁ in ^{95,96,97}Sr. By comparing the experimental spectro-977 the structure of this state. The largest spectroscopic fac- 1032 scopic factors to shell model calculations, we are able ₉₇₈ tor is found here for the 3/2⁺ state, similar to ⁹⁵Sr, yet ₁₀₃₃ to gain an improved understanding of structural changes

The calculations predict that this configuration makes 983 cates that there are substantial vacancies in the neutron

SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK

In summary, states in ^{95,96,97}Sr have been studied via the $d(^{94,95,96}Sr, p)$ reactions for the first time. In total, 16 990 angular distribution measurements and associated spec-991 troscopic factors have been determined. Spectroscopic 992 factors were deduced for an additional 2 states by us- $_{993}$ ing a relative γ -ray analysis. These spectroscopic factors 994 were compared to shell model calculations using realis-995 tic effective interactions within several carefully chosen valence spaces.

In ⁹⁵Sr, firm spin and parity assignments of 3/2⁺, 7/2⁺ $_{998}$ and $5/2^{+}$ have been made for the 352, 556 and 681 keV The comparison of the experimental results with the 999 states, respectively. Further constraints on the spin and

 $_{1012}$ of 95 Sr than the 0_1^+ state, as evidenced by the larger In addition to the excitation energies, the calculated 1013 spectroscopic factors. This result is in contrast to the

1025 of the 167 and 522 keV states, however no quantitative From the weak population of the ⁹⁷Sr ground state in ¹⁰²⁶ comparison with the shell model could be made as the

1034 that indicate a departure from simple shell structure for 1048 knowledge support from the Science and Technolo- $_{1035}$ $N \ge 58$. In future, two-neutron transfer reactions should $_{1049}$ gies Facility Council (UK, grants EP/D060575/1 and 1036 provide for a complementary examination of the under- 1050 ST/L005727/1), the National Science Foundation (US, 1037 lying structure of the 0⁺ states in the even-even neutron- 1051 grant PHY-1306297), the Natural Sciences and Engineer-1038 rich Sr isotopes. Low-energy Coulomb excitation to char- 1052 ing Research Council of Canada, the Canada Founda-1039 acterize the deformation of excited states in the even-odd 1053 tion for Innovation and the British Columbia Knowledge 1040 Sr nuclei could provide information complementary to 1054 and Development Fund. TRIUMF receives funding via 1041 the present work. Lastly, large-scale shell model calcu-1055 a contribution through the National Research Council 1042 lations in larger valence spaces, which have been so far 1056 Canada, N.A.O. acknowledges support from the CNRS 1043 only applied to the neutron-rich Zr isotopes [22, 27], will 1057 PICS "PACIFIC". 1044 provide an important addition to the present discussion.

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