Effective field theory for vibrations in odd-mass nuclei

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Heavy even-even nuclei exhibit low-energy collective excitations that are separated in scale from the microscopic (fermion) degrees of freedom. This separation of scale allows us to approach nuclear vibrations within an effective field theory (EFT). In odd-mass nuclei collective and single-particle properties compete at low energies, and this makes their description more challenging. In this article we describe odd-mass nuclei with ground-state spin $I = \frac{1}{2}$ by means of an EFT that couples a fermion to the collective degrees of freedom of an even-even core. The EFT relates observables such as energy levels, electric quadrupole ($E2$) transition strengths, and magnetic dipole ($M1$) moments of the odd-mass nucleus to those of its even-even neighbor, and allows us to quantify theoretical uncertainties. For isotopes of rhodium and silver the theoretical description is consistent with data within experimental and theoretical uncertainties. Several testable predictions are made.

I. INTRODUCTION

Collective modes such as rotations and vibrations are often the lowest-lying excitations in heavy nuclei [1], and these phenomena can be understood in terms of collective models [2–9] of the atomic nucleus. In odd-mass nuclei, collective excitations compete with single-particle excitations already at low energies. The well known particle-rotor, particle-vibrator, and boson-fermion models couple the odd fermion to the collective (boson) degrees of freedom [10–22]. While these models successfully describe various aspects of odd-mass nuclei, it is difficult to systematically improve them, or to give theoretical uncertainties for the computed results.

In this paper, we want to re-examine odd-mass nuclei within an EFT that couples a fermionic degree of freedom to the bosonic degrees of freedom of the even-even nucleus. EFTs provide us with systematically improvable approaches to nuclear interactions [23–27], clustering in nuclei [28–30], nuclear rotations [31–35] and vibrations [36]. They also allow us to quantify theoretical uncertainties [37–40]. This is an advantage over traditional models. EFTs also allow us to derive relations between observables (opposed to relations between model parameters and observables), and this makes their application interesting even in cases where microscopic approaches to nuclear collective phenomena are available [41–47].

As EFTs are based on a separation of scales, we remind the reader about the relevant low-energy scales in heavy nuclei. In heavy deformed even-even nuclei, rotational excitations (at about 0.1 MeV or less) are separated in scale from vibrations (at about 0.8 MeV), which in turn are separated from fermion excitations such as pair breaking (at about 2-3 MeV). In heavy spherical even-even nuclei, vibrations (at
an energy $\omega \approx 0.6$ MeV) are lowest in energy and separated from fermion excitations such as pair breaking at about $\Lambda \approx 2$–3 MeV. In the recently proposed boson EFT for nuclear vibrations [36], the fermion energy scale is the breakdown scale, and the “small” expansion parameter is $\omega/\Lambda \approx 1/3$.

In this work we construct an EFT for odd-mass nuclei with spin $1/2$ in their ground states by coupling an odd nucleon in a $j = 1/2$ orbital to the quadrupole degrees of freedom that govern the collective vibrations of an even-even nucleus. Based on a power counting we systematically construct the Hamiltonian and electromagnetic operators. Another interesting aspect of this EFT approach is the simultaneous description of the even-even and neighboring odd-mass nuclei; consequently, observables in the even-even nucleus are related to observables in the odd-mass system. These relations can be confronted with experimental data. In this work, we will compute $E2$ and $M1$ observables for odd-mass isotopes of rhodium and silver. This is also interesting with view on recent $g$ factor measurements in this region of the nuclear chart [48, 49]. The paper is organized as follows. In Section II we present the EFT framework within which the even-even/odd-mass nuclei will be described, establish a power counting and describe energy spectra at next-to-next-to-leading order. Sections III and V are dedicated to the study of moments and transitions of the $E2$ and $M1$ operators, respectively. In Section VI we discuss the possible extension of the EFT to the more complicated case posed by cadmium isotopes. Finally, in Section VI we present our summary.

II. ODD-MASS VIBRATIONAL NUCLEI

Certain even-even nuclei (such as isotopes of Cd, Ru, and Te) exhibit low-energy states that resemble those of a five-dimensional quadrupole oscillator. In these nuclei, the vibrational frequency $\omega \approx 0.6$ MeV is the energy scale of interest, and the picture of a quadrupole vibrator breaks down at an energy $\Lambda \approx 2$–3 MeV, i.e. around the three-phonon level. The breakdown scale $\Lambda$ is associated with neglected microscopic (fermionic) degrees of freedom and is of similar size as the pairing gap. Thus, $\omega \ll \Lambda$ holds, and this separation of scale has been exploited in Ref. [36] to construct an EFT for nuclear vibrations.

The spectra of certain odd-mass neighbors of vibrational nuclei are relatively simple and suggest that these result from coupling a $j^\pi = 1/2-$ fermion to the even-even nucleus. Examples we consider in this paper are $^{99,101,103}$Rh and $^{105,107,109,111}$Ag as a proton coupled to $^{98,100,102}$Ru and $^{104,106,108,110}$Pd, respectively, or $^{107,109,111}$Ag as a proton-hole in $^{108,110,112}$Cd. These cases are particularly simple because one deals with a $j^\pi = 1/2-$ degree of freedom. We note here that the odd-mass nuclei considered in this work also exhibit very low-lying (100 keV or less) states with positive parity. As a single fermion cannot undergo parity-changing transitions, the positive-parity states can be neglected in the description of low-lying negative-parity states in the odd-mass nuclei.

Could one also attempt to describe, for instance, $^{106,108,110,112}$Cd in terms of two protons added to $^{106,108,110}$Pd, respectively? In such an EFT approach, the low-lying positive-parity states of $^{107,109,111}$Ag would also need to enter the description. The calculation would be non-perturbative (because of the near degeneracy of states with positive and negative parities in the odd-mass nucleus), and a significant number of fermionic two-body-matrix elements would enter as low energy constants (LECs). It is thus unclear whether such an EFT approach would be profitable.

A. Hamiltonian

Before we turn to the odd-mass nuclei, we briefly review some aspects of the EFT for nuclear vibrations in even-even nuclei [36]. The relevant degrees of freedom are quadrupole operators $d^\mu_\nu$ and $d^\nu_\mu$ with $\mu = -2, -1, ..., 2$ that create and annihilate a phonon, respectively. They fulfill the usual boson commutation rela-
tions

\[ [d_\mu, d^\nu_\nu] = \delta_{\mu\nu}. \quad (1) \]

We note that \( d^\mu_\mu \) and

\[ \tilde{d}_\mu = (-1)^\mu d_{-\mu} \quad (2) \]
are spherical tensors of rank two. The angular momentum operator for the quadrupole degrees of freedom is the vector

\[ \hat{J} = \sqrt{10} \left( d^\dagger \otimes \tilde{d} \right)^{(1)}. \quad (3) \]

We recall that the coupling of the spherical tensors \( \mathcal{M}^{(m)} \) and \( \mathcal{N}^{(n)} \) of ranks \( m \) and \( n \), respectively, to a spherical tensor \( \mathcal{K}^{(k)} \) of rank \( k \) is denoted as

\[ \mathcal{K}^{(k)} = \left( \mathcal{M}^{(m)} \otimes \mathcal{N}^{(n)} \right)^{(k)}, \quad (4) \]
and the corresponding components

\[ \mathcal{K}^{(k)}_{\mu\nu} = \sum_{\mu\nu} C^{k}_{\mu\nu} \mathcal{M}^{(m)}_{\mu} \mathcal{N}^{(n)}_{\nu} \quad (5) \]
are given in terms of the Clebsch-Gordan coefficients \( C^{k}_{\mu\nu} \) that couple the angular momenta \( m \) and \( n \) to spin \( k \) \[50\]. Similarly, the scalar product of two spherical tensors \( \mathcal{M}^{(I)} \) and \( \mathcal{N}^{(I)} \) of the same rank \( I \) is \[50\]

\[ \mathcal{M}^{(I)} \cdot \mathcal{N}^{(I)} = \sqrt{2I + 1} \left( \mathcal{M}^{(I)} \otimes \mathcal{N}^{(I)} \right)^{(0)} \quad (6) \]

The boson Hamiltonian is

\[ \hat{H}_b = \omega_1 \hat{N} + g_N \hat{N}^2 + g_\pi \hat{\Lambda}^2 + g_J \hat{J}^2. \quad (7) \]
Here,

\[ \hat{N} \equiv d^\dagger \cdot \tilde{d} \quad (8) \]
and

\[ \hat{\Lambda}^2 \equiv - (d^\dagger \cdot d^\dagger) \left( \tilde{d} \cdot \tilde{d} \right) + \hat{N}^2 - 3\hat{N} \quad (9) \]
are the boson number operator and the SO(5) equivalent of the SO(3) angular momentum squared operator \( \hat{J}^2 \). For more details on the later operator and its eigenvalues see, for example, Ref. \[36\]. The first term on the right-hand side of Eq. \[7\] is of order \( \omega \). This leading order (LO) term is the Hamiltonian of a five-dimensional harmonic oscillator. The remaining terms in the Hamiltonian \[7\] account for finer details at order \( \omega^3/\Lambda^2 \). These corrections introduce anharmonicities. The power counting of the EFT is in powers of the small parameter \( \omega/\Lambda \). For details, we refer the reader to Ref. \[30\].

The fermion is described in terms of fermion creation and annihilation operators \( a^\dagger_\mu \) and \( a_\nu \) respectively, that fulfill the usual anticommutation relations

\[ \{a_\mu, a^\dagger_\nu\} = \delta_{\mu\nu}. \quad (10) \]
In most of this paper, \( \nu = -1/2, 1/2 \). The corresponding angular momentum operator is

\[ \hat{J} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( a^\dagger \otimes a \right)^{(1)}, \quad (11) \]
and the fermion number operator is

\[ \hat{n} = a^\dagger \cdot \tilde{a}. \quad (12) \]
Here, we used the spherical rank-1/2 tensor \( \tilde{a} \) with components

\[ \tilde{a}_\nu \equiv (-1)^{j+\nu} a_{-\nu}. \quad (13) \]

The fermion Hamiltonian

\[ \hat{H}_f = -S\hat{n} - \Delta\hat{n}(\hat{n} - 1) \quad (14) \]
consists of a one-body term and a two-body term. We note that the term \( \hat{n}(\hat{n} - 1) \) is the unique two-body interaction for spin-1/2 fermions restricted to a single \( j^\pi = 1/2^+ \) shell. We do not need to consider other Hamiltonian terms such as \( \hat{j}^2 \propto \hat{n}(2 - \hat{n}) \) or \( \hat{n}^2 \) because these are linear combinations of the terms already included in the Hamiltonian \[14\].

The Hamiltonian \[14\] is not the Hamiltonian of free fermions but rather captures the interactions between fermions and the ground state of the vibrating core. Let us discuss the energy scales \( S \) and \( \Delta \). For a particle (hole)
added to the even-even vibrator, $S \approx 8$ MeV ($S \approx -8$ MeV) is of order of the separation energy, while $\Delta \approx 2$ MeV is of the order of a paring gap. The attractive interaction between two nucleons (with isospin one) fail to bind the pair in vacuum but yields a bound state with energy $\Delta$ when coupled to the core. We note that $\Delta \sim \Lambda$, as pairing effects are one source of the breakdown scale of the even-even nucleus.

The interaction between boson and fermion degrees of freedom is most interesting. Two-body terms of the structure $\hat{J} \cdot \hat{j}$ and $\hat{N} \hat{n}$ couple phonons to fermions. Here, the first term could be referred to as a “Coriolis” interaction, because it couples the spin of the fermion to the spin of the core. In addition to these interactions there are three-body terms of the forms $\hat{N}^2 \hat{n}$, $\hat{J}^2 \hat{n}$, and $\hat{N} \hat{n} (\hat{n} - 1)$. Here, the first two three-body terms involve the annihilation and creation of two phonons and are suppressed in comparison to the three-body term involving only one phonon. Thus, the leading-order interactions between phonons and fermion degrees of freedom are

$$H_{b-t} = g_{jj} \hat{J} \cdot \hat{j} + \omega_2 \hat{N} \hat{n} + \omega_3 \hat{N} \hat{n} (\hat{n} - 1).$$

We note that the three-body term $\omega_3 \hat{N} \hat{n} (\hat{n} - 1)$ is only active when two fermions are coupled to the vibrating core.

Let us attempt to establish a power counting for operators involving fermion degrees of freedom. For an operator $\hat{O}_n$ with $2n$ fermion operators, we propose its matrix elements to scale as

$$\langle \hat{O}_n \rangle \sim \langle \hat{O}_{n-1} \rangle \frac{\omega}{\Lambda}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (16)

This scaling is consistent with the energy spectra of the systems we study. Thus, the terms involving one fermion in the interaction Hamiltonian scale as $\omega^2/\Lambda$.

Putting everything together, and restricting ourselves to a single fermion, we arrive at the Hamiltonian

$$H = H_b + H_l + H_{b-t}$$

$$= -S \hat{n} + H_{LO} + H_{NLO} + H_{NNLO}. \hspace{1cm} (17)$$

with

$$H_{LO} \equiv \omega_1 \hat{N},$$

$$H_{NLO} \equiv g_{jj} \hat{J} \cdot \hat{j} + \omega_2 \hat{N} \hat{n}$$

$$\text{and}$$

$$H_{NNLO} \equiv g_n \hat{N}^2 + g_2 \hat{J}^2 + g_{jj} \hat{J}^2. \hspace{1cm} (20)$$

While the term $-S \hat{n}$ in Eq. (17) sets the overall binding with respect to the ground-state of the vibrating core, it does not contain any spectroscopic information. We will therefore neglect this term in what follows. The LO Hamiltonian (18) is that of a harmonic quadrupole vibrator, and energies are of the order $\omega$. Higher-order contributions to the Hamiltonian are most interesting. The NLO Hamiltonian (19) accounts for effects introduced by the phonon-fermion couplings. We note that the size of the boson-fermion interaction cannot be determined on theoretical grounds but must rather be based on data. The empirical inspection of spectra suggests that these phonon-fermion couplings are a fraction of the scale $\omega$. We approximate this scale as order $\omega^2/\Lambda$ and thereby avoid the introduction of a new small parameter. Because of this perturbative coupling we can associate low-lying states in certain odd-mass nuclei with the spectra in the neighboring even-even nuclei. The NNLO Hamiltonian (20) involves phonon-phonon interactions that account for anharmonicities in the even-even nucleus. We remind the reader that these terms are of order $\omega^3/\Lambda^2$ and have been discussed in detail in Ref. [36].

Let us discuss the Hilbert space. The states of the odd nucleus are products of the boson quadrupole states and fermion states of the $j = 1/2$ orbital. As usual, the vacuum $|0\rangle$ fulfills

$$d_j |0\rangle = 0 = a_\nu |0\rangle.$$ \hspace{1cm} (21)

The boson states of the quadrupole vibrator are created from the vacuum by the successive application of quadrupole creation operators. These states are denoted as

$$|N\alpha \nu J \mu\rangle.$$ \hspace{1cm} (22)
Here $N$ is the number of phonons, $v$ is the seniority, $J$ and $\mu$ are the angular momentum and its projection onto the $z$-axis, respectively, while $\alpha$ represents an additional quantum number. This quantum number is only needed above the two-phonon level and therefore not needed for the low-energy physics we are interested in. We will omit it in what follows. For details on the construction of these states we refer the reader to Ref. [9]. The single-fermion states are

$$|\frac{1}{2}\nu\rangle \equiv a_{\nu}^\dagger|0\rangle.$$ (23)

Normalized states of the odd-mass nucleus with total spin $I$ and projection $M$ are

$$|IM; N\alpha vJ; \frac{1}{2}\nu\rangle \equiv \sum_{\mu\nu} C_{IM\mu\nu}^{(I)} |N\alpha vJ\mu\rangle |\frac{1}{2}\nu\rangle.$$ (24)

The Hamiltonian (17) is diagonal in the basis states (24) with eigenvalues

$$E = E_{LO} + E_{NLO} + E_{NNLO},$$ (25)

with

$$E_{LO} = \omega_1 N,$$ (26)

$$E_{NLO} = \omega_2 Nn + \frac{g_{jj}}{2} [I(I + 1) - J(J + 1) - \frac{3}{4}]$$ (27)

and

$$E_{NNLO} = g_N N^2 + g_v v(v+3) + g_{jj} J(J+1).$$ (28)

We remind the reader that we neglected the separation energy $S$, i.e., the ground-state energies of the even-even nucleus and of the odd-mass nucleus are set to zero. Figure 1 shows a schematic plot of the NLO energy spectrum (25) up to the two-phonon level. States are labeled by their spin and parity. Even-even states, shown as long red lines, have integer spins and positive parity. Odd-mass states, shown as short blue lines, have half-integer spins and the parity of the fermion’s orbital. (Odd-mass states considered in what follows all have negative parities.) Energies are chosen in units of $\omega_1$, and the LECs $\omega_2$ and $g_{jj}$ are small fractions of this LEC. We see how the term proportional to $\omega_2$ shifts the energies while the term proportional to $g_{jj}$ splits even-even states with finite spins into doublets in the odd-mass neighbor. The “centers of gravity” from the shift are shown as crosses in Fig. 1:

B. Uncertainty quantification

EFTs provide us with the opportunity to quantify theoretical uncertainties. While the power counting allows one to estimate uncertainties in EFTs, quantified uncertainties result from (testable) assumptions one makes about the distribution of the LECs [40] in form of priors. Employing Bayesian statistics (and marginalizing) over unknown parameters included in these priors yields degree-of-belief (DOB) intervals with a statistical meaning. In this section, we closely follow Ref. [36] and chose log-normal priors for the LECs’ distribution functions.
The energies of the states below the breakdown scale can be written as an expansion of the form

\[ E(I^\pi) = \omega_1 \sum_{i}^\infty c_i(I^\pi) \varepsilon^i \]  

with \( \varepsilon \equiv N \frac{\omega_1}{\Lambda} \).

In our case

\[ \frac{\omega_1}{\Lambda} \approx \frac{1}{3}. \]  

If the expansion is truncated at order \( O(\varepsilon^2) \), a comparison with the NNLO spectrum (25) allows us to identify

\[ c_0(I^\pi) \equiv \frac{E_{\text{LO}}(I^\pi)}{\omega_1}, \]  

\[ c_1(I^\pi) \equiv \frac{E_{\text{NLO}}(I^\pi)}{\varepsilon \omega_1} \]  

and

\[ c_2(I^\pi) \equiv \frac{E_{\text{NNLO}}(I^\pi)}{\varepsilon^2 \omega_1} \]  

From the power counting one expects these coefficients to be of order \( O(1) \).

Figure 2 shows the cumulative distributions of the \( c_1 \) (top) and \( c_2 \) (bottom) coefficients for the energies of states below breakdown in an ensemble containing the data of all studied Pd and Ag nuclei. These distributions, centered at \( \mu_1 \) and \( \mu_2 \), are approximated by Gaussian priors (shown as lines).

The log normal distribution is consistent with the EFT expectation that LECs are of natural size, i.e. that the coefficient \( c \) is of order one [37]. Given the priors (35) and (36), one calculates the probability distribution function (PDF) for \( c_i \) by marginalizing over the parameter \( c \) and finds

\[ p(c_i - \mu) = \int_0^\infty dc \text{pr}^{(G)}(c_i | c) \text{pr}(c). \]  

The assumption that \( c \) is log-normal distributed according to

\[ \text{pr}(c) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma c}} e^{-\frac{\ln^2 c}{2\sigma^2}}. \]  

FIG. 2. (Color online) Cumulative distributions of the \( c_1 \) (top) and \( c_2 \) (bottom) coefficients for the energies of states below breakdown in an ensemble containing the data of all studied Pd and Ag nuclei. These distributions, centered at \( \mu_1 \) and \( \mu_2 \), are approximated by Gaussian priors (shown as lines).
The cumulative distribution for \( c_i \), denoted by CDF(\( c_i \)), is then given in terms of the PDF (37) by

\[
\text{CDF}(c_i) = \int_{-\infty}^{c_i} dx p(x - \mu_i). \tag{38}
\]

Bayesian methods can be employed to quantify the uncertainties associated to the energies \([37, 40]\) at any order. From the EFT expansion for an observable

\[
X = X_0 \sum_{i}^\infty c_i \varepsilon^i, \tag{39}
\]

it is clear that an order-\( k \) calculation has a normalized uncertainty that can be approximately written as

\[
\Delta^{(k)} = \sum_{i=k+1}^{k+M} c_i \varepsilon^i. \tag{40}
\]

The PDF for the normalized uncertainty can be calculated from the priors for the expansion coefficients \([35]\) and the width parameter \([36]\) via Bayesian methods. We employed the expressions given in Ref [36] to calculate the PDF for the normalized uncertainty given the known coefficients, denoted by \( p(\Delta|c_0, \ldots, c_k) \), within the next-term approximation, that is, setting \( M = 1 \).

Given \( p(\Delta|c_0, \ldots, c_k) \), the DOB of the interval \([\alpha, \beta]\) is defined by

\[
\text{DOB}(\alpha, \beta) = \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} d\Delta p(\Delta|c_0, \ldots, c_k). \tag{41}
\]

We employ an interval of the form \([-\delta,\delta]\) with \( \text{DOB}(-\delta,\delta) = 0.68 \) to quantify the uncertainty \( \Delta X^{(k)} \) associated to the order-\( k \) calculation for \( X \) as

\[
\Delta X^{(k)} = X_0 \delta. \tag{42}
\]

Statistically, one expects 68\% of the experimental data to fall within the theoretical uncertainty quantified by this DOB interval.

C. Spectra

We need to adjust the LECs of our EFT to data from an even-even and an odd-mass nucleus simultaneously. The spectra of such an even-even/odd-mass system must resemble Eq. (25), schematically shown in Figure 7. We recall that the EFT does not distinguish between a fermion particle or a fermion hole. This allows us to describe the isotopes \(^{107,109,111}\text{Ag}\) as a proton coupled to \(^{106,108,110}\text{Pd}\) or as a proton hole coupled to \(^{108,110,112}\text{Cd}\). Assuming the validity of our EFT approach, both descriptions should agree within theoretical uncertainties.

Table I lists the LECs for the systems studied in this work. Odd-mass nuclei in these systems have \( I^\pi = \frac{1}{2}^- \) ground states. The LECs were fitted employing data for the energies of states identified as one- or two-phonon levels. Most of the states employed in the fit have definite assignments of spins and parities. For states with tentative spins, we made the following assignments:

- \( I^\pi = \frac{3}{2}^- \) for the state at 410.9 keV in \(^{99}\text{Rh}\);
- \( I^\pi = \frac{3}{2}^- \) and \( I^\pi = \frac{7}{2}^- \) for the states at 305.4 and 851.3 keV in \(^{101}\text{Rh}\), respectively;
- \( I^\pi = \frac{7}{2}^- \) for the state at 973.3 keV in \(^{107}\text{Ag}\).

These assignments were based on the decay patterns from these states to other phonon states and they agree with tentative spin assignments. The data were taken from Refs. [51–65].

Figures 3, 4, and 5 show the NNLO energy spectra of the systems listed in Table I. In these figures, even-even and odd-mass states are shown on the left and right sides, respectively. States employed to fit the LECs are shown as thick black lines, while additional states (with a definitely known spin/parity or a single tentative spin/parity assignment) are shown as thin black lines. Observed levels with more than one tentative spin/parity assignment are not shown, and we limited ourselves to negative-parity states in the odd-mass nuclei. The NNLO energies (25) for the even-even and odd-mass nuclei are shown as red crosses. Uncertainties associated to these energies are shown as red shaded areas. From the power counting, the next-to-next-to-next-to-leading order (N3LO) corrections to the en-
energies are expected to scale as $\varepsilon^3$, see Eq. (31). The uncertainties associated to the NNLO energies are quantified using this estimate and the Bayesian method described in the previous section as

$$\Delta E_{\text{NNLO}}(I^\pi) = \omega_1 \delta(I^\pi),$$

(43)

where $\delta$ comes from intervals with a 68% DOB.

Data tables show several states with tentative spin assignments that would be consistent with the theoretical results (where no bar is shown).

The comparison of Figs. 4 and 5 shows that silver isotopes can be described either as a proton particle or a proton hole coupled to palladium or cadmium, respectively. In the latter case, theoretical uncertainties are larger than in the former, possibly because cadmium isotopes have a lower breakdown scale for vibrations [30].

In order to illustrate the systematic improvement of the EFT we show the LO, NLO and NNLO energy spectra of the $^{108}\text{Pd}/^{109}\text{Ag}$ system in Figure 6. The accuracy (agreement with data) and the precision (decrease of theoretical uncertainties) increase with increasing order of the EFT. However, this comes at the cost of reduced predictive power as an increasing number of LECs need to be adjusted to data.

FIG. 3. (Color online) NNLO energy spectra of Ru/Rh systems. Rh is described as a proton in a $j^n = \frac{1}{2}^-$ orbital coupled to a Ru core. Thick black lines denote states employed to fit the LECs while thin black lines denote states with a definitely known spin or a single tentative spin-parity assignment. Red crosses and shaded areas denote theoretical predictions and uncertainties, respectively.
FIG. 4. (Color online) NNLO energy spectra of Pd/Ag systems. Ag is described as a proton in a $j^n = 1/2^-$ orbital coupled to a Pd core. Thick black lines denote states employed to fit the LECs while thin black lines denote states with a definitely known spin or a single tentative spin-parity assignment. Red crosses and shaded areas denote theoretical predictions and uncertainties, respectively.

III. $E2$ OBSERVABLES

$E2$ transitions and moments result from the minimal and nonminimal coupling of the effective degrees of freedom to gauge fields and electric fields, respectively. Due to Siegert’s theorem, coupling to gauge fields can also be rewritten as nonminimal couplings. The $E2$ operator is a spherical tensor of rank two. In this study we are interested in the reduced $E2$ strengths for transitions between states differing by none or one phonon, and the static $E2$ moments. The relevant terms of the $E2$ operator for the calculation of these observables are

$$\hat{Q}_\mu = Q_0 \left( d^\dagger_\mu + d_\mu \right) + Q_1 \left( d^\dagger \otimes d \right)_\mu^{(2)}.$$  

Here $Q_0$ and $Q_1$ are LECs that must be fit to data. From the power counting one expects $Q_1$ to scale as

$$Q_1 \sim \sqrt{\frac{\omega_1}{A}} Q_0 \sim \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} Q_0.$$  

(45)

For the odd-mass nuclei we consider, the $j = 1/2$ orbital must couple to boson degrees of freedom to obtain a rank-two tensor. Thus, we could replace $Q_{0,1}$ in Eq. (44) by the linear combination $q_{0,1} + \tilde{q}_{0,1}\hat{n}$ to include fermion effects. Based on the power counting [recall the discussion of the Hamiltonians (15) and (17)], the terms proportional to $\hat{n}$ are subleading corrections. This agrees with our expectations: $B(E2)$ strengths associated with collective quadrupole transitions in even-even nuclei are about tens of Weis-
skopf units in size and therefore much larger than single-particle effects. Here, we limit ourselves to the leading terms that change and preserve phonon numbers. In Eq. (44) the corresponding operators are proportional to \(Q_0\) and \(Q_1\), respectively.
The reduced $E2$ strength or $B(E2)$ value for the transition between the initial and final states $|i\rangle$ and $|f\rangle$, respectively, is

$$B(E2; i \rightarrow f) = \frac{\langle f|\hat{Q}|i\rangle^2}{2I_i + 1}. \quad (46)$$

Here,

$$\langle f|\hat{Q}|i\rangle = \sqrt{\frac{2I_f + 1}{C_{I_f M_f}}} \langle f|\hat{Q}_{M_f - M_i}|i\rangle \quad (47)$$

is the reduced matrix element of an spherical operator $\hat{Q}$ of rank $\lambda$. The static $E2$ moment of the state $I_i$ is defined as [9]

$$Q(I_i) = \sqrt{\frac{16\pi}{5}} \frac{C_{I_i I_0}}{\sqrt{2I_i + 1}} \langle I_i|\hat{Q}|I_i\rangle. \quad (48)$$

This definition is consistent when comparing the diagonal reduced matrix elements of the $E2$ operator in $^{106}$Pd and $^{108}$Pd reported in Ref. [69] and the static $E2$ moments for the same nuclei reported in Ref. [67].

### A. Phonon-annihilating transition strengths

The power counting establishes the transitions between states differing by one phonon as the strongest $E2$ observables. In what follows we discuss transitions in which one phonon is annihilated. The term proportional to $Q_0$ in the $E2$ operator [14] couples states that differ by one phonon; thus, the $E2$ transition strengths for one-phonon decays are governed by this LEC. The reduced matrix elements required for their calculation are

$$\langle I'; N - 1; 0|\hat{Q}|I; N; 0 \rangle = Q_0\sqrt{\Pi I} \quad \text{for } N = 1, 2 \quad (49)$$

$$\langle I'; N - 1; \tfrac{1}{2}|\hat{Q}|I; N J; \tfrac{1}{2} \rangle = \begin{cases} Q_0\Pi I & \text{for } N = 1 \\ Q_0(-1)^{I' + \tfrac{1}{2}}\sqrt{2\Pi I_{I'I}} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 & J \\ \frac{1}{2} & I & I' \end{bmatrix} & \text{for } N = 2 \end{cases}$$

Here we used the shorthand

$$\Pi_{ab...c} = \sqrt{(2a + 1)(2b + 1)\ldots(2c + 1)}. \quad (50)$$

Table III lists the reduced matrix elements for the transitions of interest resulting from Eq. (49) in terms of the LEC $Q_0$. NLO corrections to these matrix elements are expected to scale as $\varepsilon$. As a cautionary note we remark that identical units have to be employed when fitting $Q_0$ to experimental data, and recall that Weisskopf units depend on the number of nucleons $A$ for $E2$ transitions.

Tables III, IV, V and VI show LO results for phonon-annihilating $E2$ transition strengths in the $^{102}$Ru/$^{103}$Rh, $^{106}$Pd/$^{107}$Ag, $^{108}$Pd/$^{109}$Ag, and $^{110}$Cd/$^{109}$Ag, respectively. The uncertainties in these tables are quantified as $Q_0^2\delta$, and $\delta$ comes from 68% DOB intervals. For the other systems studied in this work, data on $E2$ transition strengths are insufficient to conduct a similar analysis. It would be valuable to measure $E2$ transition strengths in those systems in order to further test the EFT.

Most of the available data on $E2$ transition strengths were employed to fit the single LEC $Q_0$. The only exception was the $(1/2)_2^+ \rightarrow (5/2)_1^-$ transition strength in $^{106}$Rh, which was excluded due to its unexpectedly large value. The values of $Q_0$ for the $^{102}$Ru/$^{103}$Rh, $^{106}$Pd/$^{107}$Ag, $^{108}$Pd/$^{109}$Ag and $^{110}$Cd/$^{109}$Ag systems are 0.28,
TABLE II. Reduced matrix elements relevant for phonon-annihilating transitions in units of $Q_0$.

| System       | $I_i \rightarrow I_f$, $(f||Q||i)$ |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| even-even    | $2_1 \rightarrow 0_1$, $\sqrt{5}$   |
|              | $0_2 \rightarrow 2_1$, $\sqrt{2}$   |
|              | $2_2 \rightarrow 2_1$, $\sqrt{10}$  |
|              | $4_1 \rightarrow 2_1$, $\sqrt{18}$  |
| odd-mass     | $\frac{3}{2}_{1}\rightarrow \frac{3}{2}_{1}$, $2$ |
|              | $\frac{5}{2}_{1}\rightarrow \frac{5}{2}_{1}$, $\sqrt{6}$ |
|              | $\frac{3}{2}_{2}\rightarrow \frac{5}{2}_{1}$, $\sqrt{12}$ |
|              | $\frac{3}{2}_{2}\rightarrow \frac{3}{2}_{1}$, $\sqrt{28}$ |
|              | $\frac{5}{2}_{2}\rightarrow \frac{5}{2}_{1}$, $\sqrt{52}$ |
|              | $\frac{7}{2}_{1}\rightarrow \frac{5}{2}_{1}$, $\sqrt{72}$ |
|              | $\frac{9}{2}_{1}\rightarrow \frac{5}{2}_{1}$, $\sqrt{120}$ |

TABLE III. Reduced transition probabilities for phonon-annihilating E2 transitions in the $^{102}$Ru/$^{103}$Rh system in Weisskopf units. The uncertainty was quantified from 68% DOB intervals.

| Nucleus | $I_i \rightarrow I_f$, $B(E2)_{exp}$, $B(E2)_{EFT}$ |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------|
| $^{102}$Ru | $2^+_1 \rightarrow 0^+_1$, 45(1), 27(9) |
|          | $0^+_2 \rightarrow 2^+_1$, 35(6), 55(18) |
|          | $2^+_2 \rightarrow 2^+_1$, 32(5), 55(18) |
|          | $4^+_1 \rightarrow 2^+_1$, 66(11), 55(18) |
| $^{103}$Rh | $\frac{3}{2}^-_1 \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}^-_1$, 36(4), 27(9) |
|          | $\frac{3}{2}^-_1 \rightarrow \frac{3}{2}^-_1$, 44(3), 27(9) |
|          | $\frac{1}{2}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{3}{2}^-_1$, 486(90), 32(18) |
|          | $\frac{3}{2}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{3}{2}^-_1$, 38(18) |
|          | $\frac{5}{2}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{3}{2}^-_1$, 16(18) |
|          | $\frac{3}{2}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{5}{2}^-_1$, 3(1), 11(18) |
|          | $\frac{5}{2}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{5}{2}^-_1$, 4(1), 43(18) |
|          | $\frac{3}{2}^-_1 \rightarrow \frac{3}{2}^-_1$, 34(11), 48(18) |
|          | $\frac{5}{2}^-_1 \rightarrow \frac{5}{2}^-_1$, 5(18) |
|          | $\frac{9}{2}^-_1 \rightarrow \frac{5}{2}^-_1$, 46(7), 54(18) |

TABLE IV. Reduced transition probabilities for phonon-annihilating E2 transitions in the $^{106}$Pd/$^{107}$Ag system in Weisskopf units. The uncertainty was quantified from 68% DOB intervals.

| Nucleus | $I_i \rightarrow I_f$, $B(E2)_{exp}$, $B(E2)_{EFT}$ |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------|
| $^{106}$Pd | $2^+_1 \rightarrow 0^+_1$, 44(1), 35(12) |
|          | $0^+_2 \rightarrow 2^+_1$, 35(8), 69(23) |
|          | $2^+_2 \rightarrow 2^+_1$, 44(4), 69(23) |
|          | $4^+_1 \rightarrow 2^+_1$, 76(11), 69(23) |
| $^{107}$Ag | $\frac{3}{2}^-_1 \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}^-_1$, 42(4), 34(11) |
|          | $\frac{5}{2}^-_1 \rightarrow \frac{3}{2}^-_1$, 43(3), 34(11) |
|          | $\frac{1}{2}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{3}{2}^-_1$, 27(23) |
|          | $\frac{5}{2}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{3}{2}^-_1$, 41(23) |
|          | $\frac{5}{2}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{5}{2}^-_1$, 48(23) |
|          | $\frac{7}{2}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{3}{2}^-_1$, 14(23) |
|          | $\frac{7}{2}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{5}{2}^-_1$, 55(23) |
|          | $\frac{9}{2}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{3}^-_1$, 62(23) |
|          | $\frac{9}{2}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{5}{2}^-_1$, 7(23) |
|          | $\frac{9}{2}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{5}{2}^-_1$, 68(23) |

TABLE V. Reduced transition probabilities for phonon-annihilating E2 transitions in the $^{108}$Pd/$^{109}$Ag system in Weisskopf units. The uncertainty was quantified from 68% DOB intervals.

| Nucleus | $I_i \rightarrow I_f$, $B(E2)_{exp}$, $B(E2)_{EFT}$ |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------|
| $^{108}$Pd | $2^+_1 \rightarrow 0^+_1$, 49(1), 34(11) |
|          | $0^+_2 \rightarrow 2^+_1$, 52(5), 69(23) |
|          | $2^+_2 \rightarrow 2^+_1$, 71(5), 69(23) |
|          | $4^+_1 \rightarrow 2^+_1$, 73(8), 69(23) |
| $^{109}$Ag | $\frac{3}{2}^-_1 \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}^-_1$, 40(40), 34(11) |
|          | $\frac{5}{2}^-_1 \rightarrow \frac{3}{2}^-_1$, 41(6), 34(11) |
|          | $\frac{1}{2}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{3}{2}^-_1$, 27(23) |
|          | $\frac{3}{2}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{3}^-_1$, 41(23) |
|          | $\frac{5}{2}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{3}^-_1$, 49(24), 47(23) |
|          | $\frac{7}{2}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{3}^-_1$, 20(23) |
|          | $\frac{5}{2}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{5}^-_1$, 8(4), 14(23) |
|          | $\frac{5}{2}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{5}^-_1$, 10(7), 54(23) |
|          | $\frac{9}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{3}^-_1$, 61(23) |
|          | $\frac{9}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{5}^-_1$, 7(23) |
|          | $\frac{9}^-_2 \rightarrow \frac{5}^-_1$, 68(23) |
TABLE VI. Reduced transition probabilities for phonon-annihilating $E2$ transitions in the $^{110}$Cd/$^{109}$Ag system in Weisskopf units. The uncertainty was quantified from 68% DOB intervals.

| Nucleus  | $I_i^+ \rightarrow I_f^+$ | $B(E2)_{\text{exp}}$ | $B(E2)_{\text{EFT}}$ |
|----------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| $^{110}$Cd | $2_1^+ \rightarrow 0_1^+$ | 27(1) | 23(8)  |
|          | $0_2^+ \rightarrow 2_1^+$ | 46(15) |  |
|          | $2_2^+ \rightarrow 2_1^+$ | 30(5) | 46(15) |
|          | $4_1^+ \rightarrow 2_1^+$ | 42(9) | 46(15) |
| $^{109}$Ag | $3_2^- \rightarrow 1_2^+$ | 40(40) | 23(8)  |
|          | $3_1^- \rightarrow 1_2^+$ | 41(6) | 23(8)  |
|          | $1_2^- \rightarrow 3_2^+$ | 19(16) |  |
|          | $3_2^- \rightarrow 3_2^+$ | 28(16) |  |
|          | $3_2^- \rightarrow 5_2^+$ | 49(24) | 33(16) |
|          | $5_2^- \rightarrow 3_2^+$ | 14(16) |  |
|          | $3_2^- \rightarrow 7_2^+$ | 8(4) | 9(16)  |
|          | $7_2^- \rightarrow 5_2^+$ | 10(7) | 37(16) |
|          | $7_2^- \rightarrow 7_2^+$ | 42(16) |  |
|          | $7_2^- \rightarrow 9_2^+$ | 5(16) |  |
|          | $9_2^- \rightarrow 7_2^+$ |  |  |

$^{32, 0.32}$ and $0.27$ eb, respectively. Note that the transition strengths in $^{109}$Ag can be described employing either $^{108}$Pd or $^{110}$Cd as a core. Both descriptions agree with each other within theoretical uncertainties.

B. Static moments and phonon-conserving transition strengths

The term proportional to $Q_1$ in the $E2$ operator (44) couples states with the same number of phonons. Thus, $Q_1$ enters in the LO calculation of static $E2$ moments. The reduced matrix elements associated to these observables are

\[
\langle I'; N; 0 | \hat{Q} | I; N; 0 \rangle = \begin{cases} 
0 & \text{for } N = 0 \\
Q_1 \Pi_I & \text{for } N = 1 \\
2Q_1 \sqrt{5} \Pi_I' \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & I & I' \end{array} \right\} & \text{for } N = 2 
\end{cases}
\]

\[
\langle I'; N; J'; \frac{1}{2} | \hat{Q} | I; N, J; \frac{1}{2} \rangle = \begin{cases} 
0 & \text{for } N = 0 \\
Q_1 (-1)^{I+\frac{1}{2}} \sqrt{5} \Pi_I' \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} 2 & 2 & 2 \\ \frac{1}{2} & I & I' \end{array} \right\} & \text{for } N = 1 \\
2Q_1 (-1)^{I+\frac{1}{2}} \sqrt{5} \Pi_I' J_I' \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & J' & J \end{array} \right\} & \text{for } N = 2 
\end{cases}
\]

The static $E2$ moments and reduced matrix elements required to calculate the $E2$ strengths for transitions between two-phonon states at LO...
TABLE VII. Static $E2$ moments of states up to the two-phonon level in units of $Q_1$. The subindex $i$ indicates the position of the excited state.

| System | $I_i$ | $Q(I_i)$ |
|--------|-------|-----------|
| even-even | $2_1$ | $8\sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{35}}$ |
| | $2_2$ | $-\frac{24}{\sqrt{35}}$ |
| | $4_1$ | $16\sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{35}}$ |
| odd-mass | $3\frac{1}{2}_1$ | $\frac{28}{35}\sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{35}}$ |
| | $3\frac{1}{2}_2$ | $-\frac{12}{\sqrt{35}}\sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{35}}$ |
| | $3\frac{1}{2}_3$ | $-\frac{24}{\sqrt{35}}$ |
| | $7\frac{1}{2}_1$ | $44\sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{35}}$ |
| | $9\frac{1}{2}_1$ | $16\sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{35}}$ |

TABLE VIII. Reduced matrix elements relevant for phonon-conserving $E2$ transitions in units of $Q_1$.

| System | $I_i$ | $I_f$ | $<f||Q||i>$ |
|--------|-------|-------|-------------|
| even-even | $2_2$ | $0_2$ | 4 |
| | $4_1$ | $2_2$ | $\frac{24}{7}$ |
| odd-mass | $3\frac{1}{2}_2$ | $3\frac{1}{2}_1$ | $-\sqrt{\frac{24}{35}}$ |
| | $3\frac{1}{2}_3$ | $\frac{1}{2}_2$ | $\frac{64}{\sqrt{35}}$ |
| | $5\frac{1}{2}_2$ | $\frac{1}{2}_2$ | $\sqrt{\frac{96}{35}}$ |
| | $5\frac{1}{2}_3$ | $\frac{3}{2}_2$ | $\sqrt{\frac{216}{35}}$ |
| | $7\frac{1}{2}_1$ | $\frac{3}{2}_2$ | $\sqrt{\frac{2304}{35}}$ |
| | $9\frac{1}{2}_1$ | $\frac{5}{2}_2$ | $\sqrt{\frac{256}{35}}$ |
| | $9\frac{1}{2}_3$ | $\frac{7}{2}_2$ | $\sqrt{\frac{640}{35}}$ |
| | $9\frac{1}{2}_3$ | $\frac{7}{2}_1$ | $-\sqrt{\frac{880}{35}}$ |

are given in units of $Q_1$ in Tables VII and VIII, respectively. NLO corrections to these quantities are expected to scale as $\varepsilon$.

Our results for static $E2$ moments in the $^{102}$Ru/$^{103}$Rh, $^{106}$Pd/$^{107}$Ag and $^{108}$Pd/$^{109}$Ag systems are listed in Table IX, where the theoretical uncertainty for the state $I''$ was quantified as $\sqrt{16\pi/5}[27 + 1]C_H^2Q_0\delta$ [in agreement with the definition given in Eq. (48)], with $\delta$ from 68% DOB intervals. All available data from Refs. [66, 67] were used to fit the LEC $Q_1$ through weighted averages. Note that for the studied systems the values for $|Q_1/Q_0|$ of 0.87, 0.92 and 1.04, although large, are consistent with the expected value of 0.58 for this quantity. For comparison, a description of $^{109}$Ag as a proton-hole coupled to a $^{110}$Cd core was also performed. This description is consistent with the one describing $^{109}$Ag as a proton coupled to a $^{108}$Pd core. In the former case $|Q_1/Q_0| = 1.23$, probably larger than naively expected from the EFT.

The expressions in Tables VII and VIII can be used to relate different $E2$ observables. As examples, static $E2$ moments and $E2$ transition strengths are plotted as functions of $Q(2^+_1)$ in Figure 7. The theoretical uncertainties associ-
FIG. 7. (Color online) Static E2 moments (top) and E2 transitions strengths (bottom) as functions of $Q(2^+_1)$. The uncertainty quantified from 68% DOB intervals is shown as error bands. Data for the $^{109}_{26}$Ru/$^{103}_{44}$Rh, $^{106}_{50}$Pd/$^{107}_{47}$Ag and $^{108}_{70}$Pd/$^{109}_{47}$Ag systems are shown as diamonds, triangles, and circles, respectively.

ated to these quantities, quantified using 68% DOB intervals, are represented by bands. In the top part of the figure, the static E2 moments of the $2^{+}_2$, $4^{+}_1$, $^{(5/2)}_1^−$ and $^{(5/2)}_1^+$ states are shown as red, blue, green and purple lines, respectively. In the bottom of the figure, the $E2$ transition strengths for the $4^+_1 \rightarrow 2^+_2$ and $^{(5/2)}_1^- \rightarrow ^{(3/2)}_1^+$ transitions are shown as red and green lines, respectively. Experimental data for the $^{109}_{26}$Ru/$^{103}_{44}$Rh, $^{106}_{50}$Pd/$^{107}_{47}$Ag and $^{108}_{70}$Pd/$^{109}_{47}$Ag systems are shown in the figure as colored diamonds, triangles and circles, respectively. For these systems, the relations plotted in Figure 7 are fulfilled except for the ones involving the $2^+_2$ state.

IV. M1 OBSERVABLES

The magnetic dipole ($M1$) operator is a spherical tensor of rank one. In our EFT, the simplest rank-one operator is

$$
\hat{\mu}_\mu = \mu_d \hat{J}_\mu + \mu_a \hat{J}_\mu
$$

$$
+ \left( \left( d^\dagger + d \right) \otimes (\mu_d \hat{J} + \mu_a \hat{\lambda}) \right)_{\mu}^{(1)}
$$

(52)

The first and second terms on the right-hand side of Eq. (52) preserve the phonon number, and enter in the LO calculation of static $M1$ moments and phonon-conserving $M1$ transition strengths. The last two terms enter in the LO calculation of phonon-changing $M1$ transition strengths.

Experimental data show that the typical size for the static $M1$ moment of the even-even $2^+_2$ state is about one nuclear magneton $\mu_N$. This observation and the fact that in even-even nuclei

$$
\langle I|\hat{J}|I\rangle = \sqrt{I(I+1)(2I+1)},
$$

(53)

allow us to estimate the scale for the LEC $\mu_d$ in Eq. (52) as

$$
\mu_d \sim \frac{1}{3} \mu_N.
$$

(54)

The Schmidt value for the magnetic moment of a proton in a $j^\pi = 1/2^−$ orbital is $\mu_p \approx -0.26 \mu_N$. In contrast to $E2$ phenomena, magnetic properties in vibrational nuclei are not collective, and the contributions of the odd fermion cannot be neglected. As will be shown in what follows, the static $M1$ moment of the $I = 1/2$ ground state of the odd-mass nuclei calculated from the operator (52) is $\mu^{(1/2)} = \sqrt{\pi/3} \mu_a$. Thus, we naively estimate the value of $\mu_a$ as

$$
\mu_a \sim \mu_p.
$$

(55)

Static $M1$ moments for the ground state in $^{109}_{44}$Rh, $^{107}_{47}$Ag and $^{109}_{47}$Ag are consistent with this estimate. It is important to realize that the
LEC $\mu_a$ is neither equal nor simply related to the Schmidt value. In the EFT considered in this work, we couple a fermion with $j^\pi = \frac{1}{2}^-$ (and not a free proton in a $p$ wave) to a collective state. We have no information about any radial wave function of the coupled fermion, and we have no operators to act on its spin and its orbital angular momentum separately. The coupling between the fermion and the core is strong (as the separation energy $S$ considerably exceeds the energy scale $\omega$ of core excitations). The result of the coupling is again a collective state, and renormalizations replace “bare” quantities such as the proton’s magnetic moment by effective couplings. It is useful to contrast the EFT for vibrations in odd-mass nuclei with halo EFT \cite{28, 30, 68} for odd-mass nuclei. In halo EFT, a nucleon is very weakly bound to a core, and $S \ll \omega$ holds. The nucleon’s Schmidt value is the leading contribution to the total magnetic moment, and subleading corrections are of size $S/\omega \ll 1$ \cite{69, 70}.

Let us now turn to the phonon-changing terms in Eq. (52) and discuss the size of the LECs $\mu_d$ and $\mu_a$. Due to the absence of strong collective effects in $M1$ observables, the naive expectation is that transition matrix elements again are of single-particle size, i.e. similar to $\mu_N$ or $\mu_p$. Higher-order corrections to the leading phonon-changing and phonon-preserving terms of the $M1$ operator \cite{52} enter with increasing powers of boson or fermion creation and annihilation operators. We expect them to scale as $\varepsilon$ and omit them in what follows.

The reduced transition probabilities for $M1$ transitions and static $M1$ moments are given by \cite{9}

\[
B(M1; i \rightarrow f) = \frac{|\langle f||\hat{\mu}||i\rangle|^2}{2I_i + 1} \tag{56}
\]

and

\[
\mu(I) = \sqrt{\frac{4\pi}{3}} \frac{C_{II_{10}}}{\sqrt{2I + 1}} \langle I||\hat{\mu}||I\rangle, \tag{57}
\]

respectively.

A. Static moments and phonon-conserving transition strengths

The LO static $M1$ moments of even-even and odd-mass nuclei can be calculated from the reduced matrix elements of the first and second terms of the $M1$ operator \cite{52}. These are

\[
(I'; N; 0||\hat{\mu}||I; N; 0) = \begin{cases}
0 & \text{for } N = 0 \\
\mu_d \sqrt{I(I + 1)} \Pi_I & \text{for } N = 1 \\
-2\mu_d \sqrt{30} \Pi_{I'I'} \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc}
1 & 2 & 2 \\
2 & I & I' \\
\end{array} \right\} & \text{for } N = 2
\end{cases} \tag{58}
\]

and
systems, with uncertainties quantified as $10^2$; these observables are listed in Table XI. Reduced matrix elements employed to calculate transition strengths in odd-mass nuclei. The calculation of the allowed phonon-conserving $M_1$ number of phonons, and enter in the LO calculation of the allowed phonon-conserving $M_1$ transitions in terms of $\mu_d$ and $\mu_a$.

| System  | $I$   | $\mu(I)$ |
|---------|-------|----------|
| even-even | 2     | $4\sqrt{\frac{7}{2}}\mu_d$ |
|         | 4     | $8\sqrt{\frac{7}{2}}\mu_d$ |
| odd-mass | $\frac{1}{2}$ | $\sqrt{\frac{7}{2}}\mu_a$ |
|         | $\frac{3}{2}$ | $\sqrt{\frac{15}{2}}\mu_d - \frac{1}{3}\sqrt{\frac{7}{2}}\mu_a$ |
|         | $\frac{5}{2}$ | $\sqrt{\frac{8}{2}}\mu_d + \sqrt{\frac{15}{2}}\mu_a$ |
|         | 1     | $\sqrt{\frac{7}{2}}\mu_d + \frac{1}{3}\sqrt{\frac{8}{2}}\mu_a$ |

Results are listed in Table X. These terms of the $M_1$ operator $d^{\dagger}$ couple states with the same number of phonons, and enter in the LO calculation of the allowed phonon-conserving $M_1$ transition strengths in odd-mass nuclei. The reduced matrix elements employed to calculate these observables are listed in Table XI.

Our results for static $M_1$ moments in the $^{102}$Ru/$^{103}$Rh, $^{106}$Pd/$^{107}$Ag and $^{108}$Pd/$^{109}$Ag systems, with uncertainties quantified as $\sqrt{4\pi/3(2I+1)}CH_{II}^{11}L_d\delta$ [in agreement with the definition given in Eq. (57)], where $\delta$ comes from intervals with a 68% DOB, are listed in Table XI. Most experimental values in the table are weighted averages of data from Refs. [66, 67]. The static $M_1$ moment of the $I^\pi = 1/2^+$ ground state in $^{103}$Rh was taken from Ref. [72]. For each system, we adjusted the LECs $\mu_d$ and $\mu_a$ to the static $M_1$ moments of the even-even $2^+_1$ and odd-mass ($1/2^+$$)$ states, respectively. Notice that the values for $\mu_d$ of 0.21, 0.19 and 0.17$\mu_N$ in the $^{102}$Ru/$^{103}$Rh, $^{106}$Pd/$^{107}$Ag and $^{108}$Pd/$^{109}$Ag systems, respectively, are all consistent with the naive estimate $0.2\mu_N$. Similarly, the values for $\mu_a$ of $-0.09$, $-0.11$ and $-0.13\mu_N$ are all consistent with the Schmidt condition...
TABLE XII. Static $M1$ moments in the $^{102}$Ru/$^{103}$Rh, $^{106}$Pd/$^{107}$Ag and $^{108}$Pd/$^{109}$Ag systems in units of $\mu N$. Values marked with an asterisk were employed to fit the LECs. The uncertainty was quantified from 68% DOB intervals.

| Nucleus | $I_i^\pi$ | $\mu_{\text{exp}}(I_i^\pi)$ | $\mu_{\text{EFT}}(I_i^\pi)$ |
|---------|-----------|------------------|------------------|
| $^{102}$Ru | $^2_1$ | 0.85(3)* | 0.85(5) |
| | $^2_2$ | 0.85(10) | |
| | $^4_1$ | 1.70(8) | |
| $^{103}$Rh | $^3_1$ | -0.088* | -0.088 |
| | $^5_2$ | 0.77(7) | 0.81(5) |
| | $^7_1$ | 2.0(6) | 1.7(1) |
| | $^7_2$ | 2.8(5) | 1.6(1) |
| $^{106}$Pd | $^2_1$ | 0.79(2)* | 0.79(5) |
| | $^2_2$ | 0.71(10) | 0.79(10) |
| | $^4_1$ | 1.8(4) | 1.58(8) |
| $^{107}$Ag | $^3_1$ | -0.11* | -0.11 |
| | $^3_2$ | 0.98(9) | 0.78(5) |
| | $^5_1$ | 1.02(9) | 0.68(4) |
| | $^5_2$ | 1.6(1) | |
| | $^7_1$ | 1.5(1) | |
| $^{108}$Pd | $^2_1$ | 0.71(2)* | 0.71(4) |
| | $^2_2$ | 0.71(9) | |
| | $^4_1$ | 1.42(7) | |
| $^{109}$Ag | $^3_1$ | -0.13* | -0.13 |
| | $^3_2$ | 1.10(10) | 0.72(5) |
| | $^5_1$ | 0.85(8) | 0.58(4) |
| | $^5_2$ | 1.5(1) | |
| | $^7_1$ | 1.3(1) | |

Table XIII lists our results for phonon-conserving $M1$ transition strengths in the studied odd-mass nuclei, with uncertainties quantified as $\mu_p^2\delta/(2I_i + 1)$, where $\delta$ comes from intervals with a 68% DOB. The sparse available data on phonon-conserving $M1$ transition strengths are consistent with the EFT predictions.

TABLE XIII. Reduced transition probabilities for phonon-conserving $M1$ transitions in Weisskopf units. The uncertainty was quantified from 68% DOB intervals.

| Nucleus | $I_i^\pi \rightarrow I_f^\pi$ | $B(M1)_{\text{exp}}$ | $B(M1)_{\text{EFT}}$ |
|---------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| $^{103}$Rh | $^2_1 \rightarrow ^2_1$ | 0.034(2) | |
| | $^2_2 \rightarrow ^2_2$ | 0.036(4) | 0.036(2) |
| | $^2_1 \rightarrow ^2_1$ | 0.040(2) | 0.038(3) |
| $^{107}$Ag | $^2_1 \rightarrow ^2_1$ | 0.043(7) | 0.036(2) |
| | $^5_2 \rightarrow ^3_2$ | 0.036(4) | 0.036(4) |
| | $^5_1 \rightarrow ^3_1$ | 0.040(2) | |
| $^{109}$Ag | $^2_1 \rightarrow ^2_1$ | 0.040(2) | |

B. Phonon-annihilating transition strengths

The last two terms of the $M1$ operator couple states whose number of phonons differ by one. Their reduced matrix elements allow us to calculate phonon-annihilating $M1$ transition strengths at LO. In even-even nuclei, these transitions are higher order effects, as discussed in Ref. [36]. The reduced matrix elements of these terms in odd-mass nuclei are

value $\mu_p = -0.26\mu_N$. 


\[
\langle I'; N-1, J'; \frac{3}{2} | | \hat{\mu} | | I; N J; \frac{1}{2} \rangle = \begin{cases} 
0 & \text{for } N = 1 \\
6 \mu_{d1} (-1)^{I + \frac{3}{2}} \sqrt{5} \Pi_{I', I} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & J \\
2 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I & I' & 1 \\
2 & J & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} & \text{for } N = 2 \\
+ & \text{for } N = 1 \\
3 \mu_{a} \Pi_{I', I} \begin{pmatrix} I' & 2 & \frac{1}{2} \\
1 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} & \text{for } N = 2 
\end{cases}
\]

(60)

### Table XIV

#### Reduced matrix elements relevant for phonon-annihilating M1 transitions in terms of \( \mu_{d1} \) and \( \mu_{a1} \).

| System         | \( I_i \rightarrow I_f \) | \( \langle f | | \hat{\mu} | | i \rangle \) |
|----------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| odd-mass       | \( \frac{5}{2} \rightarrow \frac{3}{2} \) | \(- \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \mu_{a1} \) |
|                | \( \frac{7}{2} \rightarrow \frac{5}{2} \) | \(- \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2} \mu_{a1} \) |
|                | \( \frac{7}{2} \rightarrow \frac{3}{2} \) | \(- \frac{\sqrt{15}}{2} \mu_{a1} \) |
|                | \( \frac{7}{2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \) | \(- \frac{\sqrt{21}}{2} \mu_{a1} \) |

The relevant matrix elements for the calculation of these observables in odd-mass nuclei are listed in Table XIV.

In Table XV we present our results for phonon-annihilating M1 transition strengths in \(^{103}\)Rh and \(^{109}\)Ag, with uncertainties quantified as \( \mu_{a1}^{2} \delta / (2I_i + 1) \), where \( \delta \) comes from 68\% DOB intervals. All available data from Refs. \(^{56} \) to \(^{59} \) were employed to fit the LECs. For \(^{103}\)Rh and \(^{109}\)Ag we find values for \( \mu_{d1} \) of 0.0\( \mu_{N} \) and 0.08\( \mu_{N} \), and values for \( \mu_{a1} \) of 0.68\( \mu_{N} \) and 0.76\( \mu_{N} \), respectively. The small values for \( \mu_{d1} \), although smaller than naively expected, reflect the fact that M1 transitions in even-even nuclei are higher order effects. The values for \( \mu_{a1} \) are consistent with the naive estimates. Our results are in agreement with the sparse experimental data on phonon-annihilating M1 transition strengths.

### Table XV

#### Reduced transition probabilities for phonon-annihilating M1 transitions in \(^{103}\)Rh and \(^{109}\)Ag in Weisskopf units. The uncertainty was quantified from 68\% DOB intervals.

| Nucleus | \( I_i^n \rightarrow I_f^n \) | \( B(M1)_{exp} \) | \( B(M1)_{EFT} \) |
|---------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| \(^{103}\)Rh | \( \frac{5}{2} \rightarrow \frac{3}{2} \) | 0.12(1)         | 0.10(2)         |
|         | \( \frac{7}{2} \rightarrow \frac{5}{2} \) | 0.08(8)         |                 |
|         | \( \frac{8}{2} \rightarrow \frac{5}{2} \) | 0.10(4)         |                 |
|         | \( \frac{7}{2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \) | 0.03(4)         |                 |
|         | \( \frac{5}{2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \) | 0.014(2)        | 0.018(28)       |
|         | \( \frac{5}{2} \rightarrow \frac{3}{2} \) | 0.020(3)        | 0.023(28)       |
|         | \( \frac{7}{2} \rightarrow \frac{3}{2} \) | 0.17(2)         |                 |
| \(^{109}\)Ag | \( \frac{3}{2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \) | 0.117(15)       | 0.122(27)       |
|         | \( \frac{5}{2} \rightarrow \frac{3}{2} \) | 0.16(7)         | 0.07(5)         |
|         | \( \frac{3}{2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \) | 0.05(5)         |                 |
|         | \( \frac{5}{2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \) | 0.036(16)       | 0.033(36)       |
|         | \( \frac{3}{2} \rightarrow \frac{3}{2} \) | 0.10(4)         | 0.07(4)         |
|         | \( \frac{5}{2} \rightarrow \frac{5}{2} \) | 0.22(3)         |                 |

\( \mu_{a1} \) are consistent with the naive estimates. Our results are in agreement with the sparse experimental data on phonon-annihilating M1 transition strengths.
V. DISCUSSION OF ODD-MASS CADMIUM ISOTOPES

The results presented for spectra, $E2$ moments and transitions, and $M1$ moments and transitions suggest that an EFT approach to odd-mass nuclei yields a consistent description of low-energy data. Admittedly, the agreement between theory and data is also due to the relatively large experimental and theoretical uncertainties. More precise data is necessary to really probe the theory, and to motivate the computation of higher-order corrections.

Technically, the EFT we considered falls in the category of “particle-vibrator” models. Very recently, Stuchbery et al. measured $g$ factors of the odd isotopes $^{111,113}$Cd and found that the specific particle-vibrator model of Ref. [73] failed to capture key aspects of the data. A second attempt to describe these cadmium isotopes was then made within the particle-rotor (PR) model described in Ref. [74].

What would an EFT approach yield for these isotopes? The $^{111,113}$Cd nuclei have $I^\pi = 1/2^+$ ground states, and some low-lying levels can be viewed as the result of a $j^\pi = 1/2^+$ neutron coupled to the collective excitations of $^{110,112}$Cd. In addition to the $j^\pi = 1/2^+$ orbital, one also has to include a very low-lying $j^\pi = 5/2^+$ orbital in the description. Let the fermion creation operators $a_\nu^\dagger$ with $\nu = -1/2, 1/2$ and $b_\mu^\dagger$ with $\mu = -5/2, -3/2, \ldots, 5/2$ create a fermion in the $j^\pi = 1/2^+$ and $j^\pi = 5/2^+$ orbital, respectively. The LO Hamiltonian that governs the interactions between the fermion degrees of freedom and the quadrupole bosons is

$$H_{\text{abd}} = -S (\hat{n}_a + \hat{n}_b) + \omega_1 \hat{N} + \omega_5 \hat{n}_b + g_{da} \hat{J} \cdot \hat{j}_a + g_{db} \hat{J} \cdot \hat{j}_b + \omega_{2a} \hat{N} \hat{n}_a + \omega_{2b} \hat{N} \hat{n}_b.$$  (61)

Here, we used the operators

$$\hat{n}_a \equiv a_\nu^\dagger \cdot a_\nu, \quad (62)$$
$$\hat{n}_b \equiv b_\mu^\dagger \cdot b_\mu, \quad (63)$$
$$\hat{j}_a \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (a_\nu^\dagger \otimes a_\nu)^{(1)}, \quad (64)$$
$$\hat{j}_b \equiv \frac{\sqrt{70}}{2} (b_\mu^\dagger \otimes b_\mu)^{(1)}. \quad (65)$$

In the Hamiltonian (61) we omitted terms that are quartic in the boson operators. As before, $S$ denotes the separation energy and is the largest energy scale in the Hamiltonian. The difference between the separation energies of the $a$ and $b$ fermions is denoted as $\omega_5 \approx 0.3$ MeV, and is similar in size as $\omega_1$. Interactions between the fermion orbitals are smaller corrections and omitted. The Hamiltonian (61) simply describes two fermion orbitals that interact with the quadrupole bosons but do not interact with each other. Its eigenstates are simple product states.

Within this EFT, the phonon-conserving part of the $M1$ operator has the leading terms

$$\hat{\mu} = \mu_a \hat{J} + \mu_a \hat{j}_a + \mu_b \hat{j}_b.$$  (66)

Stuchbery et al. found the static $M1$ moments of the ground state $| (1/2^+_1) \rangle = a_1^\dagger | 0 \rangle$ and the excited states

$$| (5/2^+_1) \rangle = b_1^\dagger | 0 \rangle \quad \text{and} \quad | I^+_f \rangle = (d^\dagger \otimes f^\dagger)^{(I)} | 0 \rangle,$$  (67)

with $f = a, b$ and $I = 3/2, 5/2$, of particular interest. For these states we have

$$\langle (1/2^+_1) | \hat{\mu} | (5/2^+_1) \rangle = \mu_a \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}},$$
$$\langle (5/2^+_1) | \hat{\mu} | (5/2^+_1) \rangle = \mu_b \sqrt{\frac{105}{2}},$$
$$\langle I^+_f | \hat{\mu} | I^+_f \rangle = \mu_d \Pi_f \frac{I(I+1) - F(jj)}{2 \sqrt{I(I+1)}},$$
$$+ \mu_f \Pi_f \frac{I(I+1) + F(jj)}{2 \sqrt{I(I+1)}}, \quad (68)$$

Here $F(jj) \equiv jj(jj+1) - 6$. The static $M1$ moments of $I^\pi = 1/2^+, 3/2^+, 5/2^+$ states in odd-mass cadmium isotopes that result from the
coupling of the $a$ neutron to the even-even core are given by the expressions listed in Table X. The static $M_1$ moments of state resulting from the coupling of the $b$ neutron to the core are

$$
\mu \left( \frac{5}{2}^+ \right) = 5 \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{3}} \mu_b,
$$

$$
\mu \left( \frac{3}{2}^+ \right) = \frac{2}{5} 2 \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{3}} \mu_d + \frac{13}{5} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{3}} \mu_b
$$

$$
\mu \left( \frac{5}{2}^+ \right) = \frac{12}{7} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{3}} \mu_d + \frac{23}{7} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{3}} \mu_b
$$

(69)

One can adjust the LECs $\mu_d$, $\mu_a$ and $\mu_b$ to the static $M_1$ moments of the even-even $2^+_1$ and odd-mass $(1/2)_1^+$ and $(3/2)_1^+$ states, respectively, and predict the static $M_1$ moments of the rest of the excited states. Our results for the static $M_1$ moments in the $^{110}$Cd/$^{111}$Cd and $^{112}$Cd/$^{113}$Cd systems are listed in Table XVI together with those of Ref. [69], calculated within the PR model of Ref. [74]. Theoretical uncertainties were quantified as $\sqrt{4\pi/3(2I+1)}C_{110}\mu_0 \delta$, where $\delta$ comes from intervals with a 68% DOB. Experimental data for the even-even nuclei were taken from Refs. [91-93], leading to values for $\mu_d$ of 0.13 and 0.16$\mu_N$ in agreement with the naive expectation for the size of this LEC. Experimental data for states in the odd-mass nuclei were taken from Refs. [49, 61, 65]. Static $M_1$ moments were calculated from the $g$ factors of Ref. [49] as

$$
\mu(I^+) = g I.
$$

(70)

The values for $\mu_a$ of $-0.58$ and $-0.61\mu_N$ are small, but still consistent with the Schmidt value for a neutron in a $j^\pi = 1/2^+$ orbital given by $\mu_n \approx -1.91\mu_N$. The static $M_1$ moment of the $(5/2)_1^+$ state in $^{113}$Cd was assumed to be equal to that of the $(5/2)_1^+$ state in $^{111}$Cd [61]. Thus, for both cadmium systems $\mu_b \approx -0.15\mu_N$. The static $M_1$ moments of the ground states in both odd-mass cadmium isotopes are well reproduced by the EFT and the PR model, although in the former case this is attributable to the fact that the static $M_1$ moment of the ground state is employed to fit one of the LECs. For $^{111}$Cd, the static $M_1$ moment of the $(3/2)_1^+$ state is described by both the EFT and the PR model. This is not the case for the static $M_1$ moment of the $(5/2)_1^+$ state, which is underpredicted by the EFT and overpredicted by the PR model. For $^{113}$Cd, the static $M_1$ moment of the $(3/2)_1^+$ state is overpredicted by both the PR model and the EFT unless we assume that this state results from the coupling of the $b$ neutron to the one-phonon state of the even-even core. The static $M_1$ moment of the $(5/2)_1^+$ is underpredicted by the EFT and overpredicted by the PR model, while the static $M_1$ moment of the $(3/2)_1^+$ state is underpredicted by both the EFT and the PR model. Thus the EFT and the PR model both yield a fair description of the data.

| Nucleus | $I^+_1$ | $\mu_{PR}(I^+_1)$ | $\mu_{exp}(I^+_1)$ | $\mu_{EFT}(I^+_1)$ |
|---------|---------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| $^{110}$Cd | $2^+_1$ | 6.4(5)          | 6.4(5)          | 6.4(5)          |
|         | $2^+_2$ | 6.4(30)         | 6.4(30)         | 6.4(30)         |
|         | $4^+_1$ | 1.3(2)          | 1.3(2)          | 1.3(2)          |
| $^{111}$Cd | $2^+_1$ | 6.0(4)          | 6.0(4)          | 6.0(4)          |
|         | $2^+_2$ | 6.0(10)         | 6.0(10)         | 6.0(10)         |
|         | $3^+_2$ | 0.8             | 0.8             | 0.8             |
| $^{113}$Cd | $2^+_1$ | 6.5             | 6.5             | 6.5             |
|         | $3^+_2$ | 1.2             | 1.2             | 1.2             |

* Value obtained assuming the state results from the coupling of a $j^\pi = 1/2^+$ proton to the core.

b Value obtained assuming the state results from the coupling of a $j^\pi = 5/2^+$ proton to the core.
VI. SUMMARY

We have developed an EFT for the simultaneous description of spherical even-even/odd-mass systems in terms of a fermion $j = 1/2$ degree of freedom coupled to the quadrupole degrees of freedom of the even-even core. Taking the breakdown scale around the three-phonon level in the even-even core we systematically expand energies and electromagnetic observables of states up to the two-phonon level in terms of the ratio between the corresponding energy and the breakdown scale. In the studied odd-mass isotopes of rhodium and silver, predictions for energy spectra and electromagnetic moments and transitions strengths are consistent with experimental data within the theoretical uncertainties quantified via Bayesian methods. The static $E2$ moments of excited states and phonon-conserving $E2$ transition strengths in the even-even and odd-mass nuclei follow the LO relations predicted by the EFT. While most of the data is consistently described for LECs of natural size, the strengths of phonon-conserving $M1$ transitions seem to be underpredicted by a factor of about two within the EFT. More experimental data on these transitions and/or data with an increased precision would be valuable to further test the EFT developed in this work.

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